



ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

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Integrity, Innovation, Inspiration

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AGP	Artificial Grass Pitch
3G	Third Generation turf (artificial turf)
NGB	National Governing Body
FA	Football Association
LCCB	Lancashire County Cricket Board
LFA	Lancashire Football Association
ECB	England and Wales Cricket Board
EH	England Hockey
RFU	Rugby Football Union
S106	Section 106
FIT	Fields in Trust
GIS	Geographical Information Systems
KKP	Knight, Kavanagh and Page
NPPF	National Planning Policy Framework
PPS	Playing Pitch Strategy
FPM	Facilities Planning Model
FE	Further Education
HE	Higher Education
TGR	Team Generation Rate
CSP	County Sports Partnership

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PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This is the Playing Pitch Strategy (PPS) for Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley. Building upon the preceding Assessment Report it provides a strategic framework for the maintenance and improvement of existing outdoor sports pitches and ancillary facilities between 2016 and 2026. The PPS covers the following playing pitches and outdoor sports:

- ✦ Football pitches
- ✦ Cricket pitches
- ✦ Rugby union pitches
- ✦ Rugby league pitches
- ✦ Artificial grass pitches (AGPs) (Hockey)
- ✦ Bowling greens
- ✦ Tennis courts

The key objectives for the Playing Pitch Strategy are:

- ✦ To inform the review of emerging planning policy within the Local Development Frameworks of the participating authorities
- ✦ To provide adequate planning guidance to assess development proposals affecting playing fields.
- ✦ To inform land use decisions in respect of future use of existing outdoor sports areas and playing pitches within the Study Area.
- ✦ To provide a strategic framework for the provision and management of playing pitches within the Study Area
- ✦ Support external funding bids and maximise support for playing pitches.
- ✦ To provide the basis for ongoing monitoring and review of the use, distribution, function, quality and accessibility of playing pitches.

All three local authorities are under significant pressure in the current climate given the extensive level of savings that are expected to be made. This should be considered in the context of this strategy and further emphasises the need for partnership working.

1.1: Structure

The Strategy has been developed from research and analysis of playing pitch provision and usage within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley to provide:

- ✦ A vision for the future improvement and prioritisation of playing pitches
- ✦ A series of sport by sport recommendations which provide a strategic framework for sport led improvements to provision.
- ✦ A series of strategic recommendations which provide a strategic framework for the improvement, maintenance, development and, as appropriate, rationalisation of the playing pitch stock.
- ✦ A prioritised area-by-area action plan to address key issues.

The Strategy and Action Plan recommends a number of priority projects for Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley which should be implemented from 2016 to 2026. It provides a framework for improvement and, although resources may not currently be in place to implement it, potential partners and possible sources of external funding will be identified.

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The recommendations that come out of this strategy must be translated into local plan policy so there is a policy mechanism to support delivery and secure provision/investment where the opportunity arises.

There is a need to build key partnerships between each Council, National Governing Bodies of Sport (NGBs), Sport England, schools, further/higher education providers, community clubs and private landowners to maintain and improve playing pitch provision. In these instances, the potential for each Council to take a strategic lead is more limited (except in terms of developer contributions). This document will provide clarity about the way forward, and allow key organisations to focus on the key issues that they can directly influence and achieve.

1.3 Study area

The local authority boundaries of Rossendale, Pendle & Burnley will provide the geographic scope of the PPS. Sub areas, or analysis areas, have been created to allow a more localised assessment of provision and examination of playing pitch surpluses and deficiencies at a local level.

Use of analysis areas also allows local circumstances and issues to be taken into account. Rossendale is divided into six analysis areas, Pendle into five and Burnley into five:

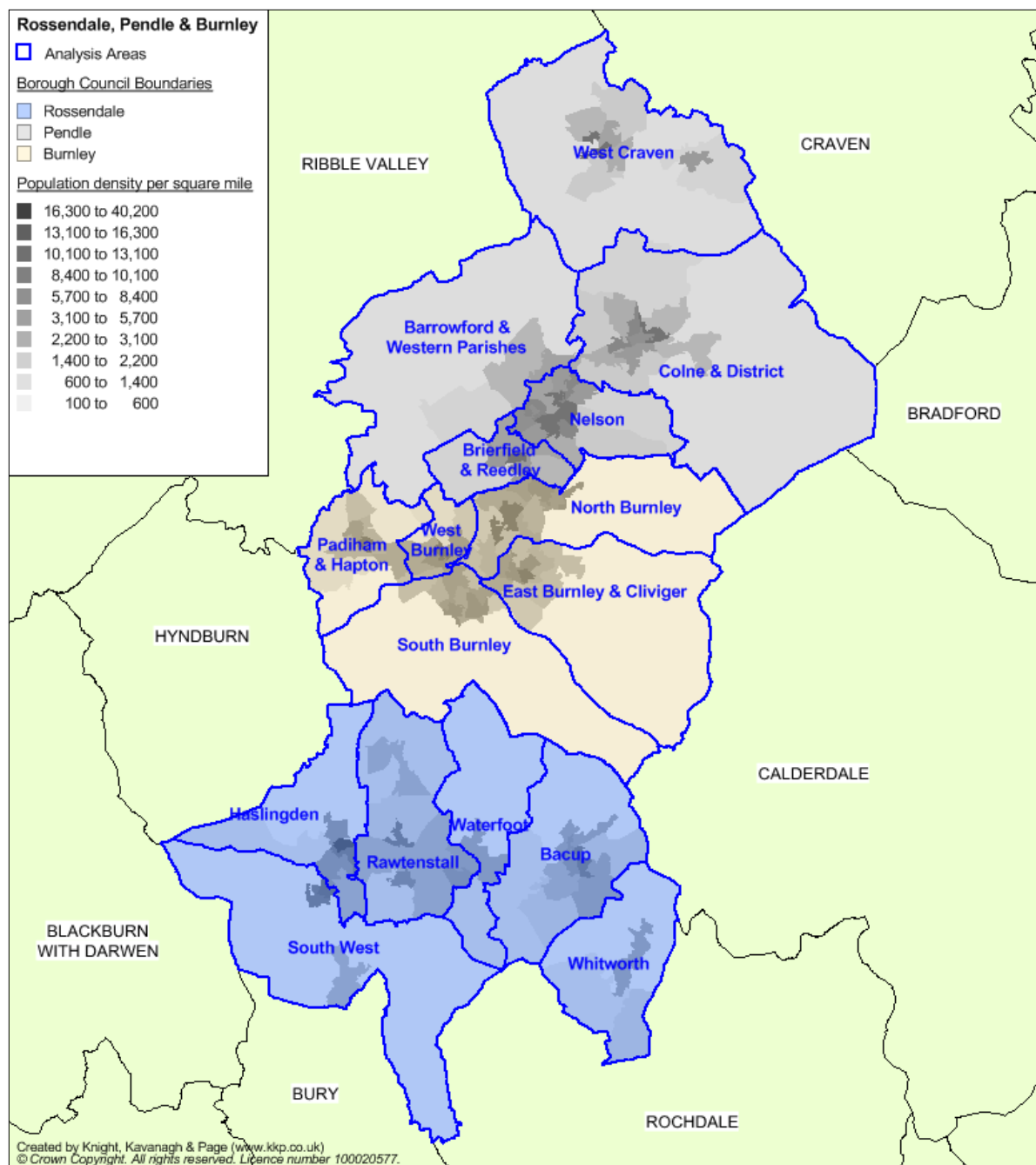
Local authority	Analysis area	Ward
Rossendale	Bacup	Stacksteads Irwell Greensclough
	Haslingden	Worsley Greenfield
	Rawtenstall	Goodshaw Cribden Longholme Hareholme
	South West	Helmshore Eden
	Waterfoot	Whitewell
	Whitworth	Facit & Shawforth Healey & Whitworth
Pendle	Barrowford & Western Parishes	Barrowford Old Laund Booth Higham & Pendleside Blacko & Higherford
	Brierfield & Reedley	Brierfield Reedley
	Colne & District	Waterside Boulsworth Horsfield Vivary Bridge Foulridge

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Local authority	Analysis area	Ward
	Nelson	Whitefield Walverden Bradley Marsden Southfield Clover Hill
	West Craven	Earby Craven Coates
Burnley	East Burnley & Cliviger	The Burnley analysis areas are not split by wards but by district boundaries. Visit www.burnley.gov.uk for more information.
	North Burnley	
	Padiham & Hapton	
	South Burnley	
	West Burnley	

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Figure 1.1: Analysis area map



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1.4 Headline findings by local authority area

The table below highlights the quantitative headline findings from the Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley Playing Pitch Assessment Report.

Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2026) ¹
Football (grass pitches) ²	Rossendale	Shortfall of 3 adult matches Shortfall of 0.5 youth 11v11 matches Demand is being met for youth 9v9 Demand is being met for mini 7v7 Demand is being met for mini 5v5	Shortfall of 3.5 adult matches Shortfall of 3.5 youth 11v11 matches Shortfall of 2.5 youth 9v9 matches Demand is being met for mini 7v7 Demand is being met for mini 5v5
	Pendle	Demand is being met for adult matches Shortfall of 1.5 youth 11v11 matches Demand is being met for youth 9v9 Demand is being met for mini 7v7 Shortfall of 1 mini 5v5 matches	Demand is being met for adult matches Shortfall of 5.5 youth 11v11 matches Shortfall of 1 youth 9v9 matches Demand is being met for mini 7v7 Shortfall of 1.5 mini 5v5 matches
	Burnley	Shortfall of 0.5 adult matches Demand is being met for youth 11v11 Demand is being met for youth 9v9 Demand is being met for mini 7v7 Demand is being met for mini 5v5	Shortfall of 1.5 adult matches Shortfall of 5 youth 11v11 matches Shortfall of 0.5 youth 9v9 matches Shortfall of 1 mini 7v7 matches Shortfall of 0.5 mini 5v5 matches
Football (3G AGPs)	Rossendale	Shortfall of 1 full size 3G pitches ³	Demand could be met to accommodate all competitive mini football
	Pendle	Shortfall of 2 full size 3G pitches	Shortfall of 2 full size 3G pitches to accommodate all competitive mini football
	Burnley	Shortfall of 0 full size 3G pitches	Shortfall of 1 full size 3G pitch to accommodate all competitive mini football
Cricket	Rossendale	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Pendle	Shortfall of 1 pitch	Shortfall of 1 pitch
	Burnley	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Rugby union	Rossendale	Shortfall of 2.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 5.5 match sessions
	Pendle	Shortfall of 7.5 match sessions	Shortfall of 13.5 match sessions
	Burnley	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Rugby league	Rossendale	No rugby league demand	No rugby league demand
	Pendle	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Burnley	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Hockey (Sand AGPs)	Rossendale	No hockey demand	No hockey demand
	Pendle	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Burnley	No hockey demand	No hockey demand

¹ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2026 if the current demand is not met and also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

² Quantified in match equivalent sessions

³ To service current training needs

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Sport	Analysis area	Current demand shortfall	Future demand shortfall (2026) ⁴
Tennis	Rossendale	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Pendle	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Burnley	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
Bowls	Rossendale	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Pendle	Demand is being met	Demand is being met
	Burnley	Demand is being met	Demand is being met

Conclusions

The existing position for all pitch sports is either demand is being met (with little, if any, actual spare capacity expressed) or there is a shortfall. The future position shows the sports with current shortfalls is exacerbated. Therefore there is a need to protect all existing provision and create access to school sites or bring some disused/lapsed sites back into use if feasible.

1.5 Definitions

Match sessions

Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected. As the main usage of pitches is likely to be for matches, it is appropriate for the comparable unit to be match equivalent sessions but may for example include training sessions.

Based on how they tend to be played this unit for football, rugby union and rugby league pitches relate to a typical week within the season for each sport. For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season.

Pitch capacity

The capacity for pitches to regularly provide for competitive play, training and other activity over a season is most often determined by quality. As a minimum, the quality and therefore the capacity of a pitch affects the playing experience and people's enjoyment of playing football. In extreme circumstances it can result in the inability of the pitch to cater for all or certain types of play during peak and off peak times. Pitch quality is often influenced by weather conditions and drainage.

⁴ Please note that this is demand that will exist in 2026 if the current demand is not met and also includes latent and displaced demand identified.

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As a guide, each NGB has set a standard number of matches that each grass pitch type should be able to accommodate without adversely affecting its current quality (pitch capacity):

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches per week		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3	2	1
	Youth pitches	4	2	1
	Mini pitches	6	4	2
Rugby union*	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2	1.5	0.5
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3	2	1.5
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25	2.5	1.75
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5	3	2
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	N/A	N/A
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season	N/A	N/A

Shortfalls

Please note that shortfalls are expressed in match sessions at this stage rather than converted to pitches as most shortfalls can be accommodated by improving pitch quality (and therefore capacity) to accommodate more match sessions. This is explored further within the action plan.

To convert match sessions into pitches, the number of match sessions should be halved (to take account of teams playing on a home and away basis).

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PART 2: VISION

2.1 Vision

A vision was set out at the beginning of the process to provide a clear focus with desired outcomes for the Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley Playing Pitch Strategy:

'To provide an accessible, high quality and sustainable network of sport pitches and other associated outdoor sports facilities, which provide opportunities for participation by all residents at all levels of play from grassroots to elite and maximises opportunities for realising health benefits'

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PART 3: OBJECTIVES

The Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley PPS is a strategy not just for the local authorities, but holistically for sport across the Borough as a whole.

Delivery of the Strategy is the responsibility of and relies on, *all* stakeholders.

The following overarching objectives are based on the three Sport England themes (see figure 1 below). It is recommended that the following are adopted by each Council and its partners to enable it to achieve the overall vision of the Strategy and Sport England planning objectives.

AIM 1

To **protect** the existing supply of sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current and future needs

AIM 2

To **enhance** outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites

AIM 3

To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

Figure 1: Sport England themes



Source: Sport England 2015

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PART 4: SPORT SPECIFIC ISSUES SCENARIOS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

In order to help develop the recommendations/actions and to understand their potential impact a number of relevant scenario questions are tested against the key issues in this section for the playing pitch sports resulting in the sport specific recommendations.

Football pitches

Summary - grass

- ✦ There are a total of 235 football pitches across the three local authorities, of which 194 are available for community use.
- ✦ Of pitches available for community use, there are 49 within Rossendale, 65 in Pendle and 80 in Burnley.
- ✦ Although security of tenure of pitches/sites is generally good, Padiham FC, Haslingden St Mary's FC and Colne FC are examples of lease arrangements which expire within the next 25 years and clubs such as Whitworth Valley FC, Earby Town FC, Barnoldswick Town FC and Colne FC also report aspirations to acquire land on long term leases. Further to this, there may be opportunities for other bodies such as parish councils to take on more responsibility for playing pitches in the future.
- ✦ Tenure of some sites does remain unsecure, notably at schools and academies which state their own policies and are more likely to restrict levels of community use. This is the case at All Saints RC School and Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, for example.
- ✦ In Rossendale, there are two pitches assessed as good quality, 27 as standard and 20 as poor. In Pendle, there are 16 pitches assessed as good quality, 28 as standard and 21 as poor. In Burnley, 20 pitches are assessed as good quality, 34 as standard and 26 as poor.
- ✦ A total of 101 clubs containing 378 teams were identified as playing within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley. This consists of 110 men's teams, eight women's teams, 125 youth boys' teams, 11 youth girls' teams and 124 mini soccer teams.
- ✦ There are 81 teams within Rossendale, 138 within Pendle and 159 within Burnley.
- ✦ There is latent demand totalling five adult, five youth and two mini teams in Burnley, five adult, five youth and four mini teams in Pendle and two adult, four youth and five mini teams in Rossendale.
- ✦ Future demand expressed by clubs equates to two adult, six youth and 11 mini teams in Burnley, four adult, 10 youth and five mini teams in Pendle and one adult, three youth and five mini teams in Rossendale.
- ✦ The table shows a total of 41 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity consisting of 12.5 match sessions in Rossendale, 15.5 match sessions in Pendle and 13 match sessions in Burnley.
- ✦ There is 5.5 match equivalents of overplay in Rossendale, five match equivalents in Pendle and two match equivalents in Burnley.
- ✦ There is an overall shortfall of adult pitches both now and in the future within Rossendale and Burnley, however, spare capacity exists in Pendle.
- ✦ For youth 11v11 pitches there is future shortfall within each local authority. There is a significant shortfall of youth 11v11 pitches and the shortfall would be far greater if teams were playing on the correct pitch sizes.
- ✦ 9v9 play can be accommodated on the current supply of pitches in each of Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley, however, future demand results in a shortfall within each local authority.
- ✦ Current and future demand can be accommodated on 7v7 pitches in Rossendale and Pendle, however, a future shortfall is identified within Burnley.

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- ◀ Spare capacity exists on 5v5 pitches both now and in the future in Rossendale, whilst a shortfall of pitches is identified in Pendle. Spare capacity currently exists within Burnley, however, future demand results in a shortfall of pitches.

Scenarios - grass

- ◀ **Improving pitch quality** - on overplayed pitches (either through increased maintenance or drainage improvements in order to increase pitch capacity) to good quality will help to accommodate overplay expressed. For example, improving all overplayed pitches to good quality will also create additional spare capacity equating to 20 match sessions which would also help to meet unmet/latent demand expressed. Most spare capacity would be generated at Towneley Park when increasing quality and therefore increasing the poor quality pitches to standard would also generate enough spare capacity to accommodate overplay. In addition to improving quality on the youth pitches at Fearn's School, usage needs to be slightly reduced by 0.5 sessions (one team) per week in order to address overplay.
- ◀ However, given the cost of doing such work for all poor and standard quality pitches the continued maintenance required (and associated costs) alternatives need to be considered that can offer a more sustainable model for the future of football. The alternative to grass pitches is the use of AGPs for competitive matches and this is something that the FA is supporting, particularly for mini football.
- ◀ **Utilising spare capacity** – where pitches express 0.5 match equivalent sessions of spare capacity in the peak period which if retained could help to sustain/improve quality.
- ◀ This leaves a total of 41 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity consisting of 12.5 match sessions in Rossendale, 15.5 match sessions in Pendle and 13 match sessions in Burnley. Spare capacity exists on each pitch type within each analysis area, with the exception of youth 11v11 and 5v5 pitches in Pendle.
- ◀ Opening up sites which are currently unavailable for community use i.e. school sites or increased activity at sites currently unused will more than accommodate all latent and future demand. However, spare capacity is not always ideally located to meet the demand expressed.
- ◀ **Transferring youth 11v11 teams from adult pitches onto youth 11v11 pitches** (u13s-u16s as u17s and u18s can play on adult pitches in accordance with the FA Youth Review) – 74 u13s-u16s teams currently play on adult size pitches across the three authorities. Of these 26 teams are in Rossendale, 23 teams in Pendle and 25 teams in Burnley. Although there is not enough spare capacity to accommodate these teams on existing youth 11v11 pitches, those adult pitches exclusively used by youth teams (equating to 30 teams) could be remarked at:
 - ◀ Maden Rec Bacup (ID:79)
 - ◀ John Bradley PF Brierfield Celtic (ID:73)
 - ◀ The Glen (ID:167)
 - ◀ St Peters PF Haslingden (ID:127)
 - ◀ Barnoldswick Town Juniors at Victory Park (ID:14)
 - ◀ Whitworth Community High School (ID:155)This would leave another 44 youth teams (u13s-u16s) to be accommodated.
- ◀ **Summary** – improving pitch quality will address overplay across all three areas. In addition, remarking youth 11v11 pitches on selected sites from adult pitches to dedicated youth 11v11 pitches and seeking options to open up school sites would help to accommodate demand (but not meet all demand). However, there may be a longer term solution in transferring youth matches to 3G pitches in a phased approach (alongside mini matches).

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Recommendations – grass football pitches

- Existing quantity of football pitches to be protected, unless equivalent alternative provision is provided.
- Where pitches are overplayed and assessed as standard or poor quality, prioritise investment for pitch improvements and review maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality.
- Remark adult pitches exclusively used by youth teams (u13s-u16s) in order to better accommodate demand and where possible transfer remaining youth teams to utilise spare capacity on other existing sites.
- Work with schools to maximise and secure access to pitches on school sites which are currently unavailable for community use and have sufficient capacity to accommodate community use in addition to school use.
- Where appropriate, develop partnership and/or lease arrangements with large, sustainable, development-minded clubs to manage their own 'home' sites.
- Explore opportunities for other bodies such as parish councils to take on more management/responsibility for playing field sites.

Summary – 3G pitches

- There are seven full size 3G AGPs within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley. Of these, two pitches are in Rossendale, one is in Pendle and four are in Burnley.
- The pitch at Gawthorpe Hall is considered unavailable to the community as Burnley FC retains dedicated use. The remaining pitches are all available for community use. All pitches are floodlit, with the exception of Alder Grange School.
- Pitches at Fearn's School, Nelson & Colne College and Prairie Fields are FA registered to host competitive matches.
- The carpet of an AGP usually lasts for approximately 10 years. As all 3G pitches within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley have either been built or resurfaced in the last six years, no major quality issues exist.
- On the basis that there are 81 teams playing within Rossendale, there is a recommended need for two full size 3G pitches, of which there is currently one (discounting Alder Grange School).
- In Pendle, there is a recommended need for three full size pitches, meaning there is a current shortfall of two pitches based on demand from 138 teams.
- Demand for 3G pitches is being met in Burnley as there are three pitches (discounting Gawthorpe Hall).
- A new 3G pitch at Fisher More Secondary School is going ahead and will therefore reduce the shortfall in Pendle.

Scenarios – 3G pitches

- Moving all mini teams to play on 3G pitches** - would result in the need for two 3G pitches in Rossendale, three 3G pitches in Pendle and four 3G pitches in Burnley.
- In Rossendale, there are currently 11 5v5 teams which would require two (rounded up from 1.38) 3G pitches and 12 7v7 teams which would require one 3G pitch. Therefore, based on the above programming and separate start times for 5v5 and 7v7 matches, the overall need is for two 3G pitches to accommodate all mini football demand within Rossendale, whilst also leaving some spare capacity (0.62 of a pitch) for growth. With Alder Grange School included (as floodlighting is not needed during the stated kick-off times) the above programme **can be accommodated on the current supply of pitches.**

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- ✦ In Pendle, there are 22 5v5 teams which would require three (rounded up from 2.75) 3G pitches and 19 7v7 teams which would require two (rounded up from 1.58) 3G pitches. This results in a need for three pitches to accommodate all mini football, **of which there is currently one.**
- ✦ In Burnley, there are 29 5v5 teams which would require four (rounded up from 3.63) 3G pitches and 31 7v7 teams which would require three (rounded up from 2.58) 3G pitches, resulting in an overall need for four pitches. Discounting Gawthorpe Hall due to its unavailability, there are currently three 3G pitches, meaning **there is a shortfall of one pitch.**
- ✦ If the three local authorities were to combine in order to accommodate all mini football on AGPs, there is a need for eight 3G pitches (rounded up from 7.75) to satisfy 5v5 demand (62 teams) and six 3G pitches (rounded up from 5.17) to satisfy 7v7 demand (62 teams). The overall need for eight 3G pitches means **there is a current shortfall of two pitches.**
- ✦ **Moving all youth 11v11 teams to play on 3G pitches** - the most common day for youth 11v11 football across the three local authorities is Sunday, with 66 out of the 87 teams playing on this day. Of these teams, 53 play Sunday AM and 13 teams play Sunday PM, meaning both timeslots have been accommodated.
- ✦ Burnley would require six (rounded up from 5.5) 3G pitches to satisfy demand from its 33 youth 11v11 teams, whilst Pendle would require five (rounded up from 4.8) pitches to satisfy its demand from 29 teams. Rossendale would also require five (rounded up 4.2) pitches to satisfy its demand from 25 teams.

Recommendations – 3G pitches

- ✦ Increase provision of 3G pitches and as a priority explore options to provide double pitch sites.
- ✦ Ensure that sinking funds (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface replacement when required) are in place to maintain 3G pitch quality in the long term.
- ✦ Carry out consultation with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving all youth/mini competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.
- ✦ Ensure that any new 3G pitches meet FA requirements and are subsequently tested and FA registered. In addition, ensure that existing and future 3G pitches are used to maximum potential to allow for future back to back programming of mini/youth matches at peak times.

World rugby compliant AGPs

- ✦ Given large amounts of over play on rugby sites consider world rugby compliant AGPs in the Area whether at club sites or shared sites.

Cricket pitches

Summary

- ✦ There are 20 senior grass cricket pitches across Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley all of which are available for community use. Of the pitches, 11 are located in Pendle, five in Rossendale and four in Burnley. In addition, there are nine standalone non-turf wicket pitches.
- ✦ The audit of grass wicket cricket pitches in Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley found nine pitches to be good quality and the remaining 11 as standard quality.
- ✦ In total, there are 28 clubs servicing the local authorities generating 56 senior teams and 54 junior teams, amounting to 110 teams in total.
- ✦ The Pendle District Cricket League reports that it currently has a waiting list of three teams due to a lack of pitches available.

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- Based on TGRs, it is predicted that there will be an increase of four junior boys' teams.
- There are clubs within each local authority that wish to grow. In Rossendale, this amounts to potential growth of one senior team and six junior teams, compared to one senior team and four junior teams in Burnley and five junior teams in Pendle.
- Women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish more female teams in every local authority over the next five years. Despite this, there are currently no dedicated female teams within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley, although girls can play in mixed junior teams.
- All pitches within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley currently show potential spare capacity amounting to a combined total of 477 match equivalent sessions, however, only five are available during peak time for senior cricket (Sundays).
- Of pitches with actual spare capacity, there are 1.5 pitches within Burnley, one with Rossendale and 0.5 within Pendle.
- No pitches are overplayed, although Barrowford Cricket Club and Earby Cricket Club are operating close to capacity.
- Spare capacity is considered to exist for junior matches both now and in the future as no non-turf wickets are adjudged to be at capacity or overplayed.
- Current and future demand can be accommodated in Rossendale and Burnley; however, there is a shortfall of pitches in Pendle. This is due to the unmet demand reported by the Pendle District Cricket League.

Scenarios

- Utilising spare capacity** – there is 0.5 pitches of actual spare capacity expressed in Pendle at Burnley Belvedere Cricket Club. Given this pitch is assessed as good quality it is likely that this level of spare capacity could be utilised to accommodate some unmet demand reported from The Pendle District Cricket League, leaving 1 pitch shortfall.
- Actual spare capacity expressed in Burnley (1.5 pitches) and Rossendale (1 pitch) can comfortably accommodate the level of likely future growth in Burnley (0.5 pitches) and in Rossendale (0.5 pitches).
- More pitches** – The Pendle District Cricket League, reports that it currently has a waiting list of three teams due to a lack of pitches available. The League wishes for all three teams to be based within Pendle. There are no grass wicket pitches in Pendle (either available or unused) that could accommodate unmet demand and therefore a new pitch would need to be provided to meet this level of unmet demand. It is worth noting that a new cricket ground will be built on the site of the former Lucas Sports Ground as part of a redevelopment. The pitch will be managed by the Council and it is hoped that it will be ready in the next two to three years.

Recommendations – cricket

- Existing quantity of grass wicket cricket pitches to be protected.
- Work with The Pendle District Cricket League to further established levels of unmet demand and explore options for access to an additional pitch in Pendle and utilising spare capacity at Burnley Belvedere Cricket Club.
- Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with clubs to review quality issues on those pitches assessed as standard quality.
- Work with clubs to establish potential future demand to establish women and girls cricket.
- Work with clubs to ensure appropriate access to ancillary facilities supports provision of pitches/sites.
- Work with clubs to improve access to indoor training facilities during the winter months.

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Rugby union pitches

Summary

- There are six senior pitches within Rossendale, five within Pendle and two within Burnley, as well as two mini pitches within Pendle. All pitches are considered available for community use.
- There are two good, eight standard and three poor quality senior pitches. One mini pitch is assessed as standard and one is assessed as poor.
- Four clubs play across Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley consisting of 11 senior, 13 junior and 15 mini teams.
- Both Burnley RUFC and Pendle RUFC report unmet demand for one senior team, whilst Rossendale RUFC reports unmet demand for two junior teams.
- All clubs report an intention to increase the number of their teams in the future. Where quantified, planned growth amounts to four senior men's, two senior women's, seven junior boys', four junior girls' and three mini teams.
- The peak time for demand for senior rugby is Saturday pm and for mini/junior teams is Sunday am, although junior teams mostly play on senior pitches.
- In total, there is considered to be 3 match equivalent sessions of actual spare capacity. Of this, all match equivalents are in Pendle.
- In total, overplay of these pitches amounts to seven match equivalent sessions, of which 5.5 match equivalents are in Pendle and 1.5 are in Rossendale.
- There is an overall shortfall of senior pitches amounting to 16.5 match equivalent sessions, of which all shortfalls are identified in Rossendale (4) and Pendle (12.5).
- Improving quality of pitches will help to provide greater capacity and help to reduce overplay throughout the Area. In addition, removing all training demand from match pitches would significantly reduce overplay. A more practical way to alleviate overplay, however, would be to install additional floodlighting.

World rugby compliant AGPs

- It is the intention of the RFU investment strategy into AGPs to invest in communities across the country where grass rugby pitches in the local community are over capacity and where the installation of an AGP would support the growth of the game at the host site and for the local rugby partnership, including local rugby clubs and other organisations within the Local Authority. The RFU is keen to work with partners such as the Council and the FA to look at sites of mutual interest for future AGP provision.

Scenarios

- Improving pitch quality** – at Burnley Rugby Club (via the maintenance schedule) will increase capacity by a further 1.5 match sessions and in part address overplay.
- Significant improvements are required to the maintenance programme and drainage at Colne & Nelson Rugby Club and by improving quality this will address overplay expressed (3 match sessions) and build future spare capacity.
- Improving pitch quality at Rossendale Rugby Club either through the maintenance schedule or drainage systems would address overplay expressed (1.5 match sessions) and build future capacity at the site (as most pitches are also played to capacity).
- The remaining actual spare capacity is located at school sites which are not ideally located to accommodate overplay expressed at the club sites.

Summary – pitch quality improvements will address over play at club sites except for Burnley Rugby Club where a total shortfall of one match equivalent session would remain.

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Recommendations – rugby union

- ✦ Existing quantity of rugby pitches to be protected, unless equivalent alternative provision is provided.
- ✦ Work to address overplay at Burnley Rugby Club via improvements to pitch quality (maintenance schedules).
- ✦ Work to address overplay at Colne & Nelson Rugby Club via improvements to pitch quality (both maintenance schedules and drainage works). Also consider installing floodlights in order to help address capacity issues to provide both training and evening match play opportunities.
- ✦ Work to address overplay and build future capacity at Rossendale Rugby Club via improvements to either the maintenance schedule or drainage system. Also consider installing more floodlights in order to help address capacity issues to provide both training and evening match play opportunities.
- ✦ Work with Pendle RUFC to develop a long term plan for the sustainability of the Club.
- ✦ If opportunities arise, explore options to provide a full size 3G pitch either directly through the RFU or in partnership with the FA which is World Rugby compliant to help address shortfalls.
- ✦ Explore options for improving on site ancillary facilities on all of the club sites.

World rugby compliant AGPs

- ✦ Consider additional rugby world rugby compliant AGPs in the Area to address levels of overplay, whether at club sites or shared sites.

Rugby league

Summary

- ✦ There is one rugby league pitch in Burnley (North Burnley Analysis Area), located at Prarie Fields (used by Burnley & Pendle RLFC). In Pendle, there are two pitches, one at Victory Park (used by West Craven Warriors RLFC) and one at West Craven High School (available for community use but unused), both of which are in the West Craven Analysis Area. There are no rugby league pitches in Rossendale, which correlates with there being no rugby league club.
- ✦ All three pitches were assessed as standard quality, meaning they can each accommodate two matches per week.
- ✦ West Craven Warriors RLFC fields one senior men's team, one senior women's team and two primary teams. All matches are played at Victory Park as well as six hours of training each week during the league season. However, some training demand is displaced to Skipton. The Club reports plans to increase its number of teams by two junior boys' teams, two junior girls' teams and three primary teams.
- ✦ The Club reports no issues with the pitch at Victory Park, however, does express a demand for a dedicated clubhouse facility and an AGP for winter and floodlit training.
- ✦ When taking into account match play and training the Victory Park pitch is overplayed by 3.5 match sessions per week but has 0.5 match sessions of spare capacity when just accounting for match play.
- ✦ Burnley & Pendle RLFC fields one senior men's team which plays at Prarie Fields. Based on match play alone, spare capacity of 1.5 match equivalents sessions is deemed to exist at Prarie Fields. It is recommended, however, that further consultation occurs with Burnley & Pendle RLFC to fully understand the clubs needs and use of the pitch.

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Scenarios

- ◆ **Utilising spare capacity** – West Craven High School has one pitch which although is available for community use is currently unused. It is located approx. five minutes' drive away from Victory and could be an option for future use by West Craven Warriors RLFC to help alleviate overplay.

Recommendations – rugby league

- ◆ Ensure existing pitch quality is sustained or improved as resources allow through maintenance improvements.
- ◆ Explore options to secure usage of West Craven High School for West Craven Warriors RLFC in order to alleviate overplay at Victory Park.
- ◆ Carry out further consultation with Burnley & Pendle RLFC to fully understand the clubs training and future needs.
- ◆ If opportunities arise, explore options to provide a full size 3G pitch in partnership with the FA which is RFL Community Standard compliant to help address shortfalls as a result of training.

Hockey pitches (AGPs)

Summary

- ◆ There are eight full size (sand based/dressed) artificial pitches across Rossendale, Burnley and Pendle. Of these, one is located in Rossendale, two are in Pendle and five are in Burnley.
- ◆ Through the audit assessment, all full size AGPs with Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley were assessed as standard quality.
- ◆ The only club servicing the three local authorities is Pendle Forest Hockey Club, which plays all its home matches at Marsden Heights School in Pendle. The Club consists of three senior women's teams, one senior women's veterans' team and four junior girls' teams. The Club itself reports no aspiration to grow in terms of teams, however, there is likely to be future participation increases based on England Hockey growth rates.
- ◆ Supply is deemed sufficient enough to meet current and future demand for both senior and junior hockey in Pendle. Focus should be placed on ensuring the quality of the AGP at Marsden Heights School is sustained.
- ◆ There are four full sized hockey AGPs in Burnley (discounting Unity College which is unavailable for community use) and one in Rossendale with no hockey use/demand. Whilst some supply may be required in order to satisfy any potential future demand, there is a clear surplus of pitches.

Scenarios

- ◆ **Current and future demand** – there is a need for one full size hockey suitable AGPs to service current and future demand for competitive hockey in Pendle. Given there are no clubs in Rossendale and Burnley, a strategic decision should be made as to the future aspirations to develop community hockey in these areas in the future.

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Recommendations – hockey

- ✦ Retain a sufficient level of sand based pitch provision to accommodate current and future demand.
- ✦ Ensure that the quality of Marsden Heights School is sustained and that there is secured use of the pitch for Pendle Forest Hockey Club.
- ✦ Work with England Hockey to establish the strategic need to retain sand AGPs in Rossendale and Burnley.
- ✦ Lancashire FA and England Hockey to work together to further assess feasibility of converting potential surplus sand AGPs to 3G pitches.
- ✦ Ensure that sinking funds (formed by periodically setting aside money over time ready for surface replacement when required) are in place to maintain AGP pitch quality in the long term.

Tennis courts

Summary

- ✦ There are a total of 54 tennis courts identified in the three local authorities across 19 sites, all of which are available for community use. The courts are relatively evenly distributed, with 21 courts in Burnley, 17 courts in Rossendale and 16 courts in Pendle.
- ✦ In addition, there are also courts within educational sites, however, no regular community use or demand is recorded.
- ✦ Of provision that is available for community use, 42 courts are assessed as good quality, five are deemed standard and seven are rated as poor.
- ✦ The courts assessed as poor quality are all located at Marsden Park (Pendle) and Towneley Park (Burnley), whilst the standard quality courts are located at Memorial Park (Burnley) and Alkincoats Park (Pendle).
- ✦ Craven Tennis Club report that its ancillary provision is poor quality due to the age of the clubhouse and its size.
- ✦ Craven Tennis Club consists of three junior members and 23 senior members. All junior members are boys, whilst senior membership is broken down as 20 men and three women.
- ✦ Burnley Lawn Tennis Club currently has 150 members, of which there are 41 juniors and 109 seniors. Of junior membership, 18 are boys and 23 are girls, whilst 85 men and 24 women form the senior membership.
- ✦ As well as neither club expressing future demand, no unmet demand or latent demand was reported during consultation.
- ✦ All clubs report spare capacity on their courts in that the current number of courts can accommodate both current and future demand. Park courts are also reported to be readily available for casual users, whilst numerous courts within education sites are available to the community if demand existed.

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Recommendations – tennis

- ▶ Priority should be placed on improving current facilities, with particular focus placed on improving the courts at Marsden Park and Towneley Park.
- ▶ Support Craven Tennis Club to seek funding options to make improvements to the ancillary facilities
- ▶ Support the LTA in working to improve accessibility to tennis in order to help deliver its Strategy. The LTA is keen to encourage parks and clubs to make use of technology solutions, which includes online court booking and fob access to courts and facilities.
- ▶ Ensure clubs can access the appropriate standard of courts to allow LTA competitions to be played.

Bowling greens

Summary

- ▶ There are 39 crown green bowling greens in Rossendale, Burnley and Pendle provided across 30 sites. Of these, 10 greens are in Rosendale, 12 in Pendle and 17 in Burnley.
- ▶ All greens were assessed as good quality, with exception of Colne Cricket & Bowls Club and Earby Memorial Bowling Club in Pendle and Greenhill Bowling Club and Towneley Park Causeway in Burnley.
- ▶ Of clubs consulted within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley there are a total of 1688 members. There are 1106 members in Burnley, 402 in Pendle and 180 in Rossendale across 12, seven and four clubs respectively.
- ▶ In correlation to a national trend of declining membership, six bowls clubs in Burnley have seen membership numbers decline since 2012. Similarly, two clubs in Rossendale have seen membership decline over the same time period, whilst just one club in Pendle (Brierfield Bowling Club) has seen a reduction in membership.
- ▶ One club in Pendle (Earby Memorial Bowling Club) states plans for membership to increase in the future. In Rossendale, Bacup Park Bowling Club reports plans for an increase in membership. Padiham Bowling Club, Lowerhouse Park Bowling Club, Queensgate Bowling Club and Causeway End Bowling Club state plans for a membership increase in Burnley.
- ▶ Generally, it is considered that most bowling clubs are able to accept additional members should demand increase. It is therefore unlikely that demand would increase to such an extent that additional greens will be needed, meaning any investment should instead be focused on improving existing greens.
- ▶ No clubs report a need for an additional green, however, it is recommended that support is offered to those clubs operating above their local authorities' average in order to ensure greens are not being overused.
- ▶ Further communication is recommended with Greenhill Social & Bowling Club and Ighten Mount Bowling Club in order to gain a better understanding of the membership within the clubs.

Recommendations – bowling greens

- ◆ Ensure local authority greens are not being overused and ensure that quality is sustained or improved.
- ◆ Address spare capacity and maximise the availability of bowling greens for pay and play in order to raise the profile of the game, increase levels of membership and the revenue generated by sites.
- ◆ Support clubs which plan to attract younger people through hosting events such as family days as well as establishing links with local primary schools.
- ◆ Investigate further the need for two greens to be accommodated at one site. Explore opportunities to combine play on to one green, for example, at sites such as Thomas Street and Marsden Park.

PART 5: STRATEGIC RECOMMENDATIONS

The strategic recommendations for the Strategy have been developed from the key issues cutting across all outdoor sports and categorised under each of the Strategy Aims. They reflect overarching and common areas to be addressed which apply across outdoor sports facilities and may not be specific to just one sport.

AIM 1

To **protect** the existing supply of sports facilities where it is needed for meeting current or future needs

Recommendations:

- a. Protect playing field sites through local planning policy
- b. Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs/organisations, through a range of solutions and partnership agreements.
- c. Maximise community use of education facilities where there is a need to do so.

Recommendation a – Protect playing field sites through local planning policy

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future. Therefore, based on the outcomes of the PPS, local planning policy should reflect this situation.

NPPF paragraph 74 states that existing open space, sports and recreational buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ✦ An assessment has been undertaken which has clearly shown the open space, buildings or land to be surplus to requirements; or
- ✦ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location; or
- ✦ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

Strategic Reserve – a number of playing pitches should be protected as strategic reserve in order to allow for pitches to be rested and rotated as well as providing back up capacity for future demand or for unforeseen circumstances arising in relation to pitches. Each local authority should look to determine the number of sites consider as strategic reserve based on its individual needs, however a number of sites have been identified within the action plan as strategic reserve in order to serve this purpose. As a guide, it is advisable to look at the previous five years of data to see the number of pitches taken out of use and match postponements to calculate the number of pitches that are needed to be kept in reserve.

Lapsed and disused – playing field sites that formerly accommodated playing pitches but are no longer used for formal or informal sports use within the last five years (lapsed) or longer (disused).

The PPS Assessment shows that all currently used playing field sites require protection and therefore cannot be deemed surplus to requirements because of shortfalls now and in the future, this includes lapsed, underused and poor quality sites. Equally where proposed development is located within access of a high quality playing pitch, this does not necessarily mean that there is no need for further pitch provision or improvements to existing pitches in that area in order to accommodate additional demand arising from that development. The PPS may, if appropriate, be used to inform a Development Management decision. However, all applications are assessed by each Council on a case by case basis. In addition, Sport England as statutory consultee on planning applications that affect or prejudice the use of a playing field will use the PPS to help assess that planning application.

Sport England's playing field policy only allows for development of lapsed or disused playing fields if a PPS shows a clear excess in the quantity of playing pitch provision at present and in the future across all playing pitch sports, and the site concerned has no special significance to sport and the development involves measures to address any deficiencies in terms of quality or accessibility identified by the PPS. All playing fields should be protected up until the point where all demand has been met.

All known disused/lapsed sites are included within the table below:

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KKP I.D	Local Authority Area	Site	Address	Sport	Management	Current Status
60	Burnley	Habergham (former Habergham High School Playing Fields)	Kidrow Lane	Football	Lancashire County Council	Three youth 11v11 pitches at the rear of the former Habergham High School and unused since the school closed in July 2010. Very poorly drained, sloped site without changing facilities. Issues with dog walkers, horse riding and illegal motorcycle use.
-	Burnley	Former Ridgewood School	Burleigh Street	Football	Lancashire County Council	One youth 11v11 pitch on the site of the closed Ridgewood School. Last used more than five years ago.
-	Burnley	Disraeli Street Recreation Ground	Disraeli Street	Football	Burnley Council	Youth 11v11 pitch, well drained but sloped with no facilities and issues with dog fouling. Reserve site for junior use - last used more than five years ago.
-	Burnley	Lockyer Avenue Playing fields	Lockyer Avenue	Football	Lancashire County Council	One youth 11v11, one 9v9 and one 7v7 pitch and a changing room. Playing fields for Ightenhill Primary School but pitches no longer used by the School. Pitches were available for community use by local teams until 2012 when the School withdrew permission.
-	Burnley	Hapton Recreation Ground	Ruskin Grove	Football	Burnley Council	Unused adult pitch due to poor drainage. A recently completed partial drainage scheme may see the pitch return to use August 2016.
-	Pendle	Harrison Drive Playing Field	Harrison Drive	Football	Pendle Council	One disused adult football pitch not used for at least ten years, poor quality.
-	Rossendale	Ewood Bridge Football Ground	Blackburn Road	Football	Private	The Site has been disused for approximately eight years. It consists of car park, clubhouse and stand as well as an adult pitch. The Site, which is in a flood risk

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KKP I.D	Local Authority Area	Site	Address	Sport	Management	Current Status
						2&3 area, would need investment in order to be brought back in to full use.
-	Rossendale	Leavengrave	Oak Street, Facit	Rugby	Town Council	Senior pitch disused. Now leased to the town council it is intended to be brought into use for sporting purposes.
-	Rossendale	Former Rossendale United Ground	Dark Lane	Football	Private	Former ground of Rossendale United, disused for several years. The Site consists of car park, clubhouse and stand as well as an overgrown adult pitch. All facilities are boarded up and the Site would need investment in order to be brought back in to full use.
-	Rossendale	Waterbarn Recreation Area	Brandwood Road, Stacksteads	Cricket/ Football	Rossendale Council	Cricket square used within the last five years by Stacksteads CC but currently unavailable and lapsed. Former football pitch also on site. Potential issues with safety and quality of the land. Former Stacksteads Church on site with potential plans to restore.
-	Rossendale	Cherry Tree Playing Field (Barlow Fold)	Cherry Tree Lane	Football	Rossendale Council	Site previously marked with youth 11v11 and more recently used recreationally with mini goalposts/ pitch size.

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Recommendation b – Secure tenure and access to sites for high quality, development minded clubs/organisations through a range of solutions and partnership agreements

Education sites

A number of school sites are being used for competitive play, predominately for football. In most cases use of pitches has not been classified as unsecure, however, use is not necessarily formalised and further work should be carried out to ensure an appropriate Community Use Agreement (CUA) is in place (including access to changing provision where required).

In some examples, tenure of some sites does remain unsecure, notably at schools and academies which state their own policies and are more likely to restrict levels of community use. This is the case at All Saints RC School and Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammar School, for example. Where there is demand for these sites to be used for community use, these should be a priority to secure use.

NGBs can often help to negotiate and engage with schools, particularly academies where the local authority may not have direct influence.

Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/accessing-schools/>

Local authority sites

Although security of tenure of pitches/sites is generally good, Padiham FC, Haslingden St Mary's FC and Colne FC are examples of lease arrangements which expire within the next 25 years and clubs such as Whitworth Valley FC, Earby Town FC, Barnoldswick Town FC and Colne FC also report aspirations to acquire land on long term leases.

Local sports clubs should be supported by partners including the Council, NGBs or the County Sports Partnership (CSP) to achieve sustainability across a range of areas including management, membership, funding, facilities, volunteers and partnership working. For example, support club development and encourage clubs to develop evidence of business and sports development plans to generate an income through their facilities. All clubs could be encouraged to look at different management models such as registering as Community Amateur Sports Clubs (CASC). Clubs should also be encouraged to work with partners locally whether volunteer support agencies or linking with local businesses.

Each Local Authority should further explore opportunities where security of tenure could be granted to the clubs playing on appropriate local authority sites (minimum 25 years as recommended by Sport England and NGBs). In particular so that clubs are in a position to apply for external funding to improve the ancillary facilities.

Each club should be required to meet service and/or strategic recommendations. However, an additional set of criteria should be considered, which takes into account the quality of the club, aligned to its long term development objectives and sustainability.

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In the context of the Comprehensive Spending Review, which announced public spending cuts, it is increasingly important for councils to work with voluntary sector organisations in order that they may be able to take greater levels of ownership and support the wider development and maintenance of facilities.

In some areas there is also potential for parish and town councils to take on additional responsibilities for pitches and **it is recommended that the councils continue to use the playing pitch strategy to steer decision making with regard to outdoor pitch provision; alternative management models should also look to follow the strategy and action plan identified within this document.**

To facilitate this, each Council should support and enable clubs to generate sufficient funds to allow this.

Recommended criteria for lease of sport sites to clubs

Club	Site
Clubs should have Clubmark/FA Charter Standard accreditation award. Clubs commit to meeting demonstrable local demand and show pro-active commitment to developing school-club links. Clubs are sustainable, both in a financial sense and via their internal management structures in relation to recruitment and retention policy for both players and volunteers. Ideally, clubs should have already identified (and received an agreement in principle) any match funding required for initial capital investment identified. Clubs have processes in place to ensure capacity to maintain sites to the existing, or better, standards.	Sites should be those identified as 'Club Sites' (recommendation d) for new clubs (i.e. not those with a Borough wide significance) but which offer development potential. For established clubs which have proven success in terms of self-management 'Key Centres' are also appropriate. As a priority, sites should acquire capital investment to improve (which can be attributed to the presence of a Clubmark/Charter Standard club). Sites should be leased with the intention that investment can be sourced to contribute towards improvement of the site. An NGB/Council representative should sit on a management committee for each site leased to a club.

Each Council can further recognise the value of NGB club accreditation by adopting a policy of prioritising the clubs that are to have access to these better quality facilities. This may be achieved by inviting clubs to apply for season long leases on a particular site as an initial trial.

Each Council should establish a series of core outcomes to derive from clubs taking on a lease arrangement to ensure that the most appropriate clubs are assigned to sites. As an example outcomes may include:

- ◆ Increasing participation.
- ◆ Supporting the development of coaches and volunteers.
- ◆ Commitment to quality standards.
- ◆ Improvements (where required) to facilities, or as a minimum retaining existing standards.

In addition, clubs should be made fully aware of the associated responsibilities/liabilities when considering leases of multi-use public playing fields.

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Further to clubs taking on leases, there may be opportunities for other organisations such as parish councils to take on more responsibility for playing pitches in the future and it is recommended that this is tested with those that may be interested.

Community asset transfer

Each council should continue to work towards adopting a policy which supports community management and ownership of assets to local clubs, community groups and trusts. This presents sports clubs and national governing bodies with opportunities to take ownership of their own facilities; it may also provide non-asset owning sports clubs with their first chance to take on a building.

The Sport England Community Sport Asset Transfer Toolkit is a bespoke, interactive web based tool that provides a step by step guide through each stage of the asset transfer process: http://archive.sportengland.org/support_advice/asset_transfer.aspx

Recommendation c – Maximise community use of education sites where there is a need to do so

In order to maximise community use of educational facilities it is recommended to establish a more coherent, structured relationship with schools. The ability to access good facilities within the local community is vital to any sports organisation, yet many clubs struggle to find good quality places to play and train. Pricing policies at facilities can be barrier to access at some of the education sites but physical access and resistance from schools, especially academies, to open up provision is also an issue.

A large number of sporting facilities are located on education sites and making these available to sports clubs can offer significant benefits to both the school/college and the local clubs. Each Council and other key partners must work with schools and colleges to develop an understanding of the issues that restrict or affect community access. Support should be provided, where appropriate, to address underlying problems. Consideration should be given to a centralised booking system for community use of schools and colleges to minimise administration and make access easier for the users.

It is not uncommon for school pitch stock not to be fully maximised for community use. Even on established community use sites, access to grass pitches for community use is limited.

In some instances grass pitches are unavailable for community use due to poor quality and therefore remedial works will be required before community use can be established.

As detailed earlier, Sport England has also produced guidance, online resources and toolkits to help open up and retain school sites for community use and can be found at: <http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/accessing-schools/>

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It is recommended that a working group, led by a partner from the education sector but supported by a range of other sectors including sport and leisure is established to implement the strategic direction in relation to the increased/better use of school facilities. Broadly speaking, its role should be to:

- ◀ To better understand current community use, practices and issues by 'auditing' schools.
- ◀ Ensure community use agreements are upheld
- ◀ Identify and pilot one school/club formal community use agreement with a view to rolling out the model across the area.
- ◀ Ensure that funding to improve the quality of the facilities is identified and secured.
- ◀ As part of any agreement secure a management arrangement for community access, which does not rely on existing school staff structures.
- ◀ Ensure that pitch provision at schools is sufficient in quality and quantity to be able to deliver its curriculum. Once this has been achieved provision could contribute to overcoming deficiencies in the area.

Although there are a growing number of academies and college sites which councils have no control over the running of, it is still important to understand the significance of such sites and attempt to work with the schools where there are opportunities for community use. In addition, the relevant NGB has a role to play in supporting the councils to deliver the strategy and communicating with schools where necessary to address shortfalls in provision, particularly for football pitches.

AIM 2

To **enhance** outdoor sports facilities through improving quality and management of sites

Recommendation:

- d. Improve quality
- e. Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) for the management and improvement of sites.
- f. Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding

Recommendation d – Improve quality

There are a number of ways in which it is possible to increase pitch quality, including for example, addressing overplay and improving maintenance. These are explored in more detail below.

Addressing quality issues

Generally where pitches are assessed as standard or poor quality and/or overplayed, review/improve maintenance regimes to ensure it is of an appropriate standard to sustain/improve pitch quality. Ensuring existing maintenance of good quality pitches continues is also important.

Based on an achievable target using existing quality scoring to provide a baseline, a standard should be used to identify deficiencies and investment should be focused on those sites which fail to meet the proposed quality standard (using the site audit database, provided in electronic format). The Strategy approach to these outdoor sports facilities achieving these standards should be to enhance quality and therefore the planning system should seek to protect them.

For the purposes of the Quality Assessments, this Strategy will refer to pitches and ancillary facilities separately as Good, Standard or Poor quality. For example, some good quality sites have poor quality elements i.e. changing rooms or a specific pitch.

Good quality refers to pitches that have, for example, a good maintenance regime coupled with good grass cover, an even surface, are free from vandalism, litter etc. In terms of ancillary facilities, good quality refers to access for disabled people, sufficient provision for referees, juniors/women/girls and appropriate provision of showers, toilets and car parking. For rugby union, a good pitch is also pipe and/or slit drained.

Standard quality refers to pitches that have, for example, an adequate maintenance regime coupled with adequate grass cover, minimal signs of wear and tear, goalposts may be secure but in need of minor repair. In terms of ancillary facilities, standard quality refers to adequately sized changing rooms, storage provision and provision of toilets. For rugby union, drainage is natural and adequate.

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Poor quality refers to pitches that have, for example, poor levels of maintenance coupled with inadequate grass cover, uneven surface and damage. In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior. For rugby union, drainage is natural and inadequate.

Please refer to the Sport England/NGB quality assessments. Sites played beyond capacity may require remedial action to help reduce this.

In terms of ancillary facilities, poor quality refers to inappropriate size of changing rooms, no showers, no running water and old dated interior.

Without appropriate, fit for purpose ancillary facilities, good quality pitches may be underutilised. Changing facilities form the most essential part of this offer and therefore key sites such as those mentioned above should be given priority for improvement.

In order to prioritise investment into key sites **it is recommended that the steering group works up a list of criteria, relevant to the Area, to provide a steer on future investment.**

For improvement/replacement of AGPs refer to Sport England and the NGBs 'Selecting the Right Artificial Surface for Hockey, Football, Rugby League and Rugby Union' document for a guide as to suitable AGP surfaces:

www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/tools-guidance/design-and-cost-guidance/artificial-sports-surfaces/

Addressing overlap

In order to improve the overall quality of the playing pitches stock; it is necessary to ensure that pitches are not overplayed beyond recommended weekly carrying capacity. This is determined by assessing pitch quality (via a non-technical site assessment) and allocating a weekly match limit to each. Each NGB recommends a number of matches that a good quality grass pitch should take:

Sport	Pitch type	No. of matches		
		Good quality	Standard quality	Poor quality
Football	Adult pitches	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Youth pitches	4 per week	2 per week	1 per week
	Mini pitches	6 per week	4 per week	2 per week
Rugby union*	Natural Inadequate (D0)	2 per week	1.5 per week	0.5 per week
	Natural Adequate (D1)	3 per week	2 per week	1.5 per week
	Pipe Drained (D2)	3.25 per week	2.5 per week	1.75 per week
	Pipe and Slit Drained (D3)	3.5 per week	3 per week	2 per week
Rugby league	Senior	3 per week	2 per week	1 per week
Cricket	One grass wicket	5 per season	N/A	N/A
	One synthetic wicket	60 per season		

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* Please note that the RFU believes that it is most appropriate to base the calculation of pitch capacity upon an assessment of the drainage system and maintenance programme afforded to a site.

There are also a number of sites that are poor quality but are not overplayed. These sites should not be overlooked as often poor quality sites have less demand than other sites but demand could increase if the quality was to increase. Improving pitch quality should not be considered in isolation from maintenance regimes.

Whilst it works both ways in so much as poor pitch condition is a symptom of pitches being over played, potential improvements may make sites more attractive and therefore more popular.

There is also a need to balance pitch improvements alongside the transfer of play to alternative pitch sites. Therefore, work with clubs to ensure that sites are not played beyond their capacity and encourage play, where possible, to be transferred to alternative venues which are not operating at capacity.

Increasing pitch maintenance

Standard or poor grass pitch quality may not just be a result of poor drainage. In some instances ensuring there is an appropriate maintenance for the level/standard of play can help to improve quality and therefore increase pitch capacity. Each NGB can provide assistance with reviewing pitch maintenance regimes.

For example, the FA, ECB and RFL in partnership have recently introduced a Pitch Advisor Scheme and have been working in partnership with Institute of Groundsmanship (IOG) to develop a Grass Pitch Maintenance service that can be utilised by grassroots football clubs with the simple aim of improving the quality of grass pitches. The key principles behind the service are to provide football clubs with advice/practical solutions on a number of areas, with the simple aim of improving the club's playing surface.

In relation to cricket, maintaining high pitch quality is the most important aspect of cricket. If the wicket is poor, it can affect the quality of the game and can, in some instances, become dangerous. The ECB recommends full technical assessments of wickets and pitches available through a Performance Quality Standard Assessment (PQS). The PQS assesses a cricket square to ascertain whether the pitch meets the Performance Quality Standards that are benchmarked by the Institute of Groundsmanship. Please note that PQS assessments are also available for other sports.

Recommendation e – Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) for the management and improvement of sites

To allow for facility developments to be programmed within a phased approach each Council should adopt a tiered approach to the management and improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities. Please refer to Part 7: Action Plan for the proposed hierarchy.

Recommendation f – Work in partnership with stakeholders to secure funding

Partners, led by each Council, should ensure that appropriate funding secured for improved sports provision is directed to areas of need, underpinned by a robust strategy for improvement in playing pitch facilities.

In order to address the community's needs, to target priority areas and to reduce duplication of provision, there should be a coordinated approach to strategic investment. In delivering this recommendation each Council should maintain a regular dialogue with local partners and through the Playing Pitch Steering Group.

Some investment in new provision will not be made by the councils directly, it is important, however, that each Council therefore seeks to direct and lead a strategic and co-ordinated approach to facility development by education sites, NGBs, sports clubs and the commercial sector to address community needs whilst avoiding duplication of provision.

Please refer to Appendix Two for further funding information which includes details of the current opportunities, likely funding requirements and indicative project costs.

Sport and physical activity can have a profound effect on peoples' lives, and plays a crucial role in improving community cohesion, educational attainment and self-confidence. However, one of sport's greatest contributions is its positive impact on public health. It is therefore important to lever in investment from other sectors such as health and wellbeing for example.

AIM 3

To **provide** new outdoor sports facilities where there is current or future demand to do so

Recommendations:

- g. Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock.
- h. Identify opportunities to add to the overall stock to accommodate both current and future demand.

Recommendation g - Rectify quantitative shortfalls in the current pitch stock

Each Council and its partners should work to rectify identified inadequacies and meet identified shortfalls as outlined in the Assessment Report and the sport by sport specific recommendations.

It is important that the current levels of grass pitch provision are protected, maintained and enhanced to secure provision now and in the future. For most sports the future demand for provision identified can be overcome through maximising use of existing pitches through a combination of:

- ✦ Improving pitch quality in order to improve the capacity of pitches to accommodate more matches.
- ✦ The re-designation of pitches for which there is an oversupply.
- ✦ Securing long term community use at school sites.
- ✦ Working with commercial and private providers to increase usage.

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While maximising the use of existing pitches offers scope to address the quantitative deficiencies for most sports, new or additional cricket squares on public or private fields, as well as improving existing wickets is required to meet the levels of demand identified for cricket both now and in the future.

There may be an opportunity to use some senior pitches to provide senior, junior or mini pitches (through different line markings/coning areas of the pitch). However, further work should be undertaken on this as an action for each Council/NGBs. Furthermore the re-designation of adult pitches that are not currently used may lead to a deficiency of adult pitches in the medium to longer term as younger players move up the ages. It is likely that for some sports, particularly football, that the provision of new pitches and facilities will be required in the future to support the predicted future demand.

Unmet demand, changes in sport participation and trends, and proposed housing growth should be recognised and factored into future facility planning. Assuming an increase in participation and housing growth occurs, it will impact on the future need for certain types of sports facilities. Sports development work also approximates unmet demand which cannot currently be quantified (i.e., it is not being suppressed by a lack of facilities) but is likely to occur. The following table highlights the main development trends in each sport and their likely impact on facilities. However, it is important to note that these may be subject to change.

Furthermore, retaining some spare capacity allows some pitches to be rested to protect overall pitch quality in the long term. Therefore, whilst in some instances it may be appropriate to re-designate a senior pitch where there is low demand identified a holistic approach should be taken to re-designation for the reasons cited. The site-by-site action planning will seek to provide further clarification on where re-designation is suitable.

Likely future sport-by-sport demand trends

Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Football	The needs of the game changed after the 2013/14 season with the implementation of the FA Youth Development Review. As a result, pitch demands may change. This could also see changes in the seasonal demand of pitches (youth football).	Consider re-allocating leases to Community Charter Standard clubs with a large number of teams. Work with clubs to identify facility development opportunities. Work with clubs in relation to their pitch demands as a result of the FA Youth Development Review.
	Demand for senior football is likely to be sustained based on current trends and the move to small sided football. County FA focus to maintain growth of youth football through to adults.	Sustain current stock but consideration given to reconfigure pitches if required.
	An increase in women and girls football following £2.4m investment over the next two years (2014-2016) from Sport England to increase the number of women and girls taking part in football sessions.	A need to provide segregated ancillary facilities and the potential need for more pitches.

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Sport	Future development trend	Strategy impact
Cricket	Generally demand is likely to remain static for grass wickets for both junior and adult participation. However, women's and girls' cricket is a national priority and there is a target to establish more female teams in every local authority over the next five years.	Isolated pockets of demand for access to additional facilities where pitches are operating at capacity. There are currently no dedicated female teams within Rossendale, Pendle and Burnley, although girls do play in mixed junior teams.
		Support clubs to ensure access to segregated changing and toilet provision and access to good quality cricket pitches to support growth.
Rugby union	The Rugby Football Union works towards achieving the stated outcomes of the Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017), the Rugby Football Union National Women and Girls Strategy and the Rugby Football Union National Male XV-a-side Strategy. Locally the RFU want to ensure access to pitches in Rossendale, Pendle & Burnley that satisfies the existing demand and predicted growth particularly in light of the Rugby World Cup 2015. Further, that we are aiming to protect and improve pitch quality plus that of ancillary facilities including changing rooms and floodlights as current and future demand requires.	Clubs are likely to field more teams in the future. It is important, therefore, to work with the clubs to maintain the current pitch stock and to support facility development where appropriate.
Rugby league	RFL is working towards growing rugby league participation including through growth at junior clubs, Play Touch RL and 9 aside RL.	Review the need for dedicated rugby league pitches in the next three years. Seek 3G pitch venues for Play Touch and grass pitches for 9 aside.
AGPs	Demand for 3G pitches for competitive football will increase. It is likely that future demand for the use of 3G pitches to service competitive football, particularly mini and youth will result in some reduced demand for grass pitches. Provision of 3G pitches which are World Rugby compliant will help to reduce overplay as a result of training on rugby pitches.	Ensure that access to new AGP provision across the Borough is maximised and that community use agreements are in place. Utilise Sport England/NGB guidance on choosing the correct surface: http://www.sportengland.org/media/30651/Selecting-the-right-artificial-surface-Rev2-2010.pdf

Recommendation h - Identify opportunities to add to the overall pitch stock to accommodate both current and future demand

Each Council should use, and regularly update, the Action Plan within this Strategy for improvements to its own pitches whilst recognising the need to support partners. The

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Action Plan lists improvements to be made to each site focused upon both qualitative and quantitative improvements as appropriate for each area.

Furthermore any potential school sites which become redundant over the lifetime of the Strategy may offer potential for meeting community needs on a localised basis. Where schools are closed their playing fields may be converted to dedicated community use to help address any unmet community needs.

Some sites (or adjacent land) also have the potential to accommodate more pitches which may be a solution to meeting shortfalls identified as is further explored within the action plan.

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PART 6: ACTION PLAN

Introduction

The site-by-site action plan list seeks to address key issues identified in the accompanying Assessment Report. It provides recommendations based on current levels of usage, quality and future demand, as well as the potential of each site for enhancement.

It should be reviewed in the light of staff and financial resources in order to prioritise support for strategically significant provision and provision that other providers are less likely to make. Recommendation e below explains the hierarchy of priorities on the list. It is imperative that action plans for priority projects should be developed through the implementation of the strategy.

Each Council should make it a high priority to work with NGBs and other partners to comprise a priority list of actions based on local priorities, NGB priorities and available funding.

Recommendation e - Adopt a tiered approach (hierarchy of provision) to the management and improvement of sites

To allow for facility developments to be prioritised and programmed within a phased approach a tiered model to for the improvement of playing pitch sites and associated facilities is useful.

The identification of sites is based on their strategic importance in a Borough-wide context i.e. they accommodate the majority of demand or the recommended action has the greatest impact on addressing shortfalls identified either on a sport by sport basis or across the Borough as a whole.

Recommended tiered site criteria

Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites	Informal sites
Strategically located. Priority sites for NGB.	Strategically located within the analysis area.	Serves the local community. Likely to include education sites.	Serves the local community.
Accommodates three or more good quality grass pitches. Including provision of at least one AGP.	Accommodates two or more good quality grass pitches.	Accommodates more than one pitch.	Likely to be single-pitch site.
Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision. Could also operate as a central venue.	Single or multi-sport provision.	Supports informal usage and/ or training etc.
Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Maintenance regime aligns with NGB guidelines.	Standard maintenance regime either by the club or in house maintenance contract.	Basic level of maintenance i.e. grass cutting and line marking as required.
Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing	Good quality ancillary facility on site, with sufficient changing	Appropriate access changing to accommodate both	No requirement for access changing to accommodation.

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Hub sites	Key centres	Local sites	Informal sites
rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	rooms and car parking to serve the number of pitches.	senior and junior use concurrently (if required).	

Hub sites are of Borough wide importance where users are willing to travel to access the range and high quality of facilities offered and are likely to be multi sport. These have been identified on the basis of high impact on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

The financial, social and sporting benefits which can be achieved through development of strategic sites (also known as hub sites) are significant. Sport England provides further guidance on the development of community sports hubs at:

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/planning_tools_and_guidance/sports_hubs.aspx

Where development of Strategic Sites includes provision of 3G pitches for football it is recommended that further modelling/feasibility work is carried out to ensure sustainability of new 3G pitches to accommodate competitive fixtures. However, as a priority consultation should be carried out with leagues/clubs to gauge acceptance/buy in of moving competitive play to 3G pitches in the future.

Key centres although these sites are more community focused, some are still likely to service a wider analysis area (or slightly wider). However, there may be more of a focus on a specific sport i.e. a dedicated site.

It is considered that some financial investment will be necessary to improve the ancillary facilities at both Hub sites and Key Centres to complement the pitches in terms of access, flexibility (i.e. single-sex changing if necessary), quality and that they meet the rules and regulations of local competitions.

Local sites refer to those sites which are generally one and two pitch sites and may be Council owned hired to clubs for a season or are sites which have been leased on a long-term basis. However, they are also likely to be private club sites serving one particular sport.

The level of priority attached to them for Council-generated investment may be relatively low and consideration should be given, on a site-by-site basis, to the feasibility of a club taking a long-term lease on the site (if not already present), in order that external funding can be sought.

It is possible that sites could be included in this tier which are not currently hired or leased to a club, but have the potential to be leased to a suitable club. NGBs would expect the facility to be transferred in an adequate condition that the club can maintain. In the longer term, the Club should be in a position to source external funding to improve/extend the facilities.

Informal sites could be used as overspill for neighbouring sites and/or for summer matches/competitions, training or informal play. They are most likely to be single-pitch sites with no ancillary facilities.

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Management and development

The following issues should be considered when undertaking sports related site development or enhancement:

- ◀ Financial viability.
- ◀ Security of tenure.
- ◀ Planning permission requirements and any foreseen difficulties in securing permission.
- ◀ Adequacy of existing finances to maintain existing sites.
- ◀ Business Plan/Masterplan – including financial package for creation of new provision where need has been identified.
- ◀ Analysis of the possibility of shared site management opportunities.
- ◀ The availability of opportunities to lease sites to external organisations.
- ◀ Options to assist community groups to gain funding to enhance existing provision.
- ◀ Negotiation with landowners to increase access to private strategic sites.
- ◀ Availability of funding for hub site development.
- ◀ Impact on all sports that use a site regardless of the sport that is the subject of enhancements.

Action plan columns

Partners

The column indicating Partners refers to the main organisation that each Council will liaise with in helping to deliver the actions. The next stage in the development of the action plan will be to agree a Lead Partner to help deliver the actions.

Site hierarchy tier and priority level

Although Strategic Sites are mostly likely to have a **high** priority level as they have Borough wide importance, high priority sites have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the key issues identified in the assessment and therefore some Key Centres are also identified as having a high priority level. It is these projects/sites which should generally be addressed within the short term (1-2 years).

It is recommended that as the Steering Group reviews and updates the action plan that medium and low priority sites are then identified as the next level of sites for attention. As a guide it is recommended that:

Key centres are a **medium** priority and have analysis area importance and have been identified on the basis of the impact that the site will have on addressing the issues identified in the assessment.

Low priority sites are club or education sites with local specific importance and have been identified on a site by site basis as issues appertaining to individual sites but that may also contribute to addressing the issues identified in the assessment

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Costs

The strategic actions have also been ranked as low, medium or high based on cost. The brackets in which these sit are:

(L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above. These are based on Sport England's estimated facility costs which can be found at www.sportengland.org/media/198443/facility-costs-4q13.pdf

Timescales

The action plan has been created to be delivered over a ten year period. The information within the Assessment Report, Strategy and Action Plan will require updating as developments occur. The timescales relate to delivery times and are not priority based.

Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

Aim

Each action seeks to meet at least one of the three aims of the Strategy; **Enhance, Provide, Protect.**

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ROSSENDALE SUMMARY

Football – grass pitches

Summary of current and future demand for adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bacup	1	0.5	-	0.5	-	0.5
Haslingden	-	3	-	-3	-	-3
Rawtenstall	1.5	-	-	1.5	-	1.5
South West	-	-	-		-	
Waterfoot	-	1.5	-	-1.5	-	-1.5
Whitworth	0.5	-	1	-0.5	0.5	-1
Rossendale	3	5	1	-3	0.5	-3.5

Summary of current and future demand for youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bacup	-	-	1	-1	0.5	-1.5
Haslingden	-	-	-		-	
Rawtenstall	1	-	-	1	-	1
South West	-	-	-		-	
Waterfoot	-	-	-		-	
Whitworth	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
Rossendale	1	0	1.5	-0.5	3	-3.5

Summary of current and future demand for youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bacup	2	-	0.5	1.5	0.5	1
Haslingden	-	0.5	-	-0.5	-	-0.5
Rawtenstall	-	-	-		-	
South West	-	-	-		-	
Waterfoot	-	-	-		-	
Whitworth	-	-	-		0.5	-0.5
Rossendale	2	0.5	0.5	1	3.5	-2.5

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Summary of current and future demand for mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bacup	-	-	1	-1	1	-2
Haslingden	3.5	-	-	3.5	-	3.5
Rawtenstall	-	-	-		-	
South West	-	-	-		-	
Waterfoot	-	-	-		-	
Whitworth	-	-	0.5	-0.5	0.5	-1
Rossendale	3.5	0	1.5	2	1.5	0.5

Summary of current and future demand for mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Bacup	1	-	0.5	0.5	1	-0.5
Haslingden	-	-	-		-	
Rawtenstall	-	-	-		-	
South West	1	-	-	1	-	1
Waterfoot	1	-	-	1	-	1
Whitworth	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
Rossendale	3	0	1	2.5	1	1.5

- Improving pitch quality will address over play. In addition, remarking youth 11v11 pitches on selected sites from adult pitches to dedicated youth 11v11 pitches and seeking options to open up school sites would help to accommodate demand (but not meet all demand). However, there may be a longer term solution in transferring youth matches to 3G pitches in a phased approach (alongside mini matches).

Football – 3G pitches

Summary of current 3G pitch requirements in each analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Bacup	37	1	-	1
Haslingden	27	1	-	1
Rawtenstall	3	1	-	1
South West	2	1	-	1
Waterfoot	5	1	1	-
Whitworth	7	1	-	1
Rossendale	81	6	1	5

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Cricket

Summary of current and future demand for cricket pitches

Local authority	Actual spare capacity (matches)	Demand (matches)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Rossendale	1	-	-	0.5	0.5

- Current and future demand is being met in the Area. Cricket pitches at Edenfield Cricket Club and Stacksteads Cricket Club have some spare capacity at peak time. However, both pitches are assessed as standard quality.

Rugby union

Summary of current and future demand for rugby union pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ⁵	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Rossendale	-	1.5	1	3	-5.5

- All overplay, unmet and future demand is all expressed at Rossendale Rugby Club.
- Whitworth Community High School is unused for community use; however, it is not ideally located to offer a solution to meeting the shortfalls identified.
- Building future capacity at Rossendale Rugby Club via improvements to either the maintenance schedule or drainage system is required. Also installing more floodlights may help address capacity issues. Club also reports the need for additional and improved changing facilities

Rugby league

- There are no rugby league pitches in Rossendale, which correlates with there being no rugby league club.

Hockey

- Although there is one sand based AGP in Rossendale (Fearn's School) there is no community based club demand for use of the pitch. There is a need to establish the strategic need to retain sand AGPs in Rossendale.

Tennis

- There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- Parkwood LTC is the key club servicing Rossendale.
- All park courts are free to use for the community and their quality is rated as good.
- No tennis courts within schools are available for community use.

⁵ In match equivalent sessions

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Bowls

- ◄ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity. However, further investigation will be required to determine any loss.
- ◄ Although all the greens are assessed as good quality in Rossendale, there may be some site by site improvements needed.

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ACTION PLAN

Bacup Analysis Area

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ⁶	Timescales ⁷	Aim
5	Bacup Borough FC	Football	Club	One adult floodlit pitch assessed as standard quality. Overall good condition but drainage issues. Spare capacity at peak time.	Retain spare capacity to help protect/improve quality.	FA Club	Local	L	S-L	Protect Enhance
6	Bacup CC Rossendale	Cricket	Club	One good quality pitch with 24 grass wickets and one non turf wicket. No spare capacity during peak time. Very good condition of the ground. Potential ladies team next season.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage and potential future growth. Grant application in place for cricket non turf practice area with inspired facilities.	LCCB Club	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance
79	Maden Rec	Football	Council	Four adult (three standard and one poor quality) and three mini pitches (all standard quality). Some pitches are sloped and drainage is poor. Minimal spare capacity.	Retain spare capacity and improve pitch quality. Possible site for FA Pitch Improvement Programme.	Council FA	Key Centre	M-H	S-M	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		One good quality green but with some dry spots.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council		L	S-L	
84	Moorlands Park	Football	Council	A park pitch unmarked and used as a kickabout some vehicle damage and some drainage issues. Standard quality changing rooms.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
110	Rose and Bowl Stacksteads	Bowls	Club	One good quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
114	Sharneyford Rec	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch which is unused. No changing available.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
129	Stacksteads Rec	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch overplayed by 0.5 matches per week. Stacksteads St Joseph's FC report that dog fouling and unofficial use of the site is a big issue. Poor quality changing rooms.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance of the site to address unofficial use in order to address overplay.	Council	Local	L	S	Enhance
131	Stubbylee Park	Tennis	Council	Three standard quality tennis courts.	Sustain/improve court quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		Two good quality bowling greens but some wear in corners and wooden surrounds require attention.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.					
150	Weir Playing Field	Football	Council	Pitch unmarked, no posts present, severe drainage issues.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
167	The Glen	Football	Council	Two adult, one youth and two mini pitches, all standard quality. Users report poor quality changing rooms serving the site.	Retain spare capacity to help protect/improve quality. Explore funding options to improve changing rooms.	Council FA	Key Centre	M	S	Protect Enhance

⁶ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

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Haslingden Analysis Area

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ⁸	Timescales ⁹	Aim
1	Alder Grange School	Football	School	One adult football pitch standard quality. Good condition but poor drainage. No community use.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect
				One full size short pile 3G pitch with no floodlighting. Built in 2010 and remains good quality.	Maximise use and encourage provider to become FA registered in order to help maximise use at weekends for competitive football use.	FA		L	S	
58	Greenfield Gardens	Bowls	Council	One bowling green, good quality but reports of some worm casts. Used by Greenfield Veterans Bowling Club with 50 members; this is above the area average.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
63	Haslingden CC Rossendale	Cricket	Club	One standard quality pitch with 21 grass wickets and one non turf wicket. No spare capacity during peak time. One cricket practice area off the outfield, concrete and not been used for years.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues.	LCCB Club	Local	M	S	Protect Enhance
64	Haslingden High School	Football	School	Three adult and one youth pitch all standard quality. No community use.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect
		AGP		One half size (60 x 40) sand based AGP no floodlighting.						
124	St John's Stonefold C of E Primary School Accrington	Football	School	One mini pitch standard quality. No community use.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
127	St Peters Playing Fields	Football	Council	One adult with two 7v7 mini marked over and one youth 9v9 with two 7v7 mini marked over (all standard quality). Also one separate 7v7 pitch (poor quality). Community use by Rossendale Valley Juniors. Adult and youth pitches are overplayed and minimal spare capacity on mini pitch.	Explore options to reconfigure this site to reduce overplay and create dedicated pitches. Improve pitch quality - possible site for FA Pitch Improvement Programme.	Council FA	Key Centre	L-M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
147	Victoria Park	Bowls	Council	One bowling green, good quality but some worm casts and ditches require attention.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
157	Worsley Park	Tennis	Council	One standard quality tennis court.	Sustain/improve court quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		One good quality bowling green with some worm casts present and ditches require maintenance.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.			L	L	
165	South Shore Street	Football	Club	One adult pitch, standard quality and overplayed by one match session per week. Leased by Haslingden St Mary's FC.	Improve pitch quality in order to address overplay.	FA Club	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance
187	Broadway Primary School	Football	School	One good quality youth pitch with no community use.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect

⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

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Rawtenstall Analysis Area

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ¹⁰	Timescales ¹¹	Aim
3	All Saints RC School	Football	School	Two adult pitches of standard quality. Generally good condition but has drainage issues. No community use.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	FA	Local	L	M	Protect
7	Balladen Primary School	Football	School	One standard quality mini pitch. No community use.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
11	Barlow Fold Cherry Tree Lane	Football	Council	Unmarked youth pitch with poor levels drainage issues.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
39	Crawshawbooth Primary School	Football	School	No current goal posts or marked pitch but suitable for a 7v7 if marked out and grass cut frequently.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
50	Fairview Recreation Ground	Football	Council	Unmarked pitch for children to kickabout - poor levels.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
74	Loveclough Park	Tennis	Council	Two poor quality tennis courts.	Ensure appropriate quality for informal levels of use.	Council	Local	L-M	S	Protect Enhance
75	Loveclough Recreation Ground	Football	Council	One poor quality youth 11v11 pitch. Grass too long - severe drainage issues - damage to corner of the pitch. Available for community use but unused due to quality issues.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
80	Marl Pits	Football	Council	Two adult pitches both standard quality. Overall good condition but some undulations and wear in goalmouth areas. Some spare capacity available at peak time.	Retain spare capacity for help sustain/improve quality and provide appropriate off season maintenance to rectify any issues.	Council FA	Hub Site	L	S	Protect Enhance
				Four small sided 3G pitches (35 x 25) which are floodlit and well used.	Sustain current quality and usage levels.			L	L	
89	New Hall Hey Cricket Ground	Cricket	Council	Used by Stacksteads CC. One standard quality pitch with nine grass wickets and one non turf wicket. The artificial wicket is dangerous and cannot be used. However, square and wickets are generally in good condition and club reports drainage issues on the outfield. Actual spare capacity. Ancillary facilities are in need of improvement.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues. Explore funding options for improvements to changing rooms.	LCCB	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance
90	Newchurch/St Nicholas Primary School	Football	School	Not currently marked but is suitable to accommodate a 7v7 or 5v5 mini pitch and is standard quality.	Retain for school use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
107	Rawtenstall CC	Cricket	Club	One good quality pitch with 15 grass wickets and two non turf wickets. No spare capacity during peak time. Players pavilion is in poor condition and requires attention.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage and potential future growth. Explore funding options for pavilion refurbishment.	LCCB Club	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance

¹⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

¹¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ¹²	Timescales ¹³	Aim
111	Rossendale Rugby Club Marl Pits	Rugby union	Club	One standard quality, floodlit senior pitch which is overplayed by 1.5 matches per week. Teams trains on floodlit pitch for six hours per week (four match equivalent sessions). Additional four senior pitches (three standard and one poor quality) which are all played to capacity. Club reports that more changing rooms are required at their respective homeground as the current supply does not meet demand in relation to the number of pitches. Quality is also inadequate for demand and modern expectations.	Given that the Club has aspirations to grow and reports unmet demand for pitches, there is a need to improve pitch quality (via improvements to either the maintenance schedule or drainage system) and seek options for access to additional pitches in order to address capacity issues. Also consider installing more floodlights in order to help address capacity issues. Explore options for improving changing facilities.	RFU Club Council	Key Centre	M	S	Protect Enhance
112	Rossendale United FC	Football	Council	Lapsed site which contained one adult football pitch. Club folded and pitch is now overgrown and all facilities boarded up.	Explore opportunities to bring the site back into use to meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment. Or alternatively, if bringing the site back into use is not feasible or sustainable or disposal of the site is inevitable it must meet the requirements of the second criterion of paragraph 74 of NPPF. This requires replacement provision of an equivalent or better quantity and quality in a suitable location.	Council FA	Local	M	S	Provide
154	Whitaker Park	Football	Council	Disused pitch due to drainage issues.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council FA	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Two standard quality tennis courts.	Ensure appropriate quality for informal levels of use.			L	S	
		Bowls		One good quality green used by Whitaker Park Bowling Club which has 17 members. Club reports poor drainage. Pavilion is standard quality but in need of refurbishment and ideally toilets added (currently located further into the park).	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.			L	L	
186	St Pauls CE School	Football	School	One standard quality mini pitch which is available for community use but unused.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
188	St Peters Roman Catholic Primary	Football	School	One youth and one mini pitch both of standard quality. Available for community use but unused.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	Council FA	Local	L	L	Protect

¹² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

¹³ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

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South West Analysis Area

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost	Timescales	Aim
45	Edenfield C of E School	Football	School	One poor quality youth pitch with no community use. Severe slope touchline and some drainage issues.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
46	Edenfield CC	Cricket	Club	One standard quality pitch with 14 grass wickets and two non turf wickets. Some humps and deviations in outfield and club reports drainage issues on the outfield. Some minimal peak time capacity. Also five natural turf practice area on outfield and two non turf practice net area.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues. Retain spare capacity until quality is improved.	LCCB Club	Local	M	S	Protect Enhance
47	Edenfield Rec	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch, available but unused due to quality issues. Severe drainage issues - slopes touchline to touchline.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
65	Haslingden Sports Centre	Football	Council	Five adult, two mini and youth pitch, all poor quality resulting in two pitches being unusable last season. No spare capacity due to poor quality. Pitch drainage is an issue and some pitches are very uneven. Used by Haslingden Juniors FC.	Improve pitch quality and maximise use to meet shortfalls - possible site for FA Pitch Improvement Programme.	Council FA	Hub Site	M	M	Protect Enhance Provide
		Tennis		Three good quality tennis courts (astro turf) but capacity to increase usage.	Further establish the need to retain this as tennis courts or consider refurbishment to 3G.	Council		M	S	
97	Parkwood LTC	Tennis	Club	Three good quality tennis courts managed by the Parkwood LTC but located on the site of Haslingden Sports Centre.	Sustain court quality.	Club		L	L	
67	Helmshore Park	Football	Council	One poor quality mini (5v5) pitch which is available but unused likely due to quality issues.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect
128	St Veronicas Primary Helmshore	Football	School	One standard quality mini (5v5) pitch with no community use.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
171	Stubbins Primary School	Football	School	One poor quality youth (9v9) pitch with no community use.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
189	Helmshore Primary School	Football	School	One poor quality youth (9v9) pitch which is available for community use but unused likely due to poor quality.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance

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Waterfoot Analysis Area

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ¹⁴	Timescales ¹⁵	Aim
4	Bacup and Rawtenstall Grammer School	AGP	School	One 3G pitch (80 x 65) with no floodlighting and unavailable for community use.	Retain for school use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
37	Cowpe Rec	Football	Council	One poor quality mini (5v5) pitch which is available for community use and unused likely due to quality issues.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
49	Edgeside Park Rossendale	Football	Council	Flat pitch - unmarked but has the potential to be a 5v5 or 7v7 pitch, used for kickabout.	Low value site for football, retain as an informal pitch. Where possible reinvest in improvements to Key Centre or Hub site.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
51	Fearn's School Rossendale	Football	School	One standard quality adult pitch overplayed by 1.5 match sessions per week. Well used for community use. Good condition overall and drains well apart from one area near the top goal.	Improve pitch quality through increased maintenance regimes in order to address overplay.	Council FA	Key Centre	L-M	S	Protect Enhance
		AGP		One full size sand based AGP and one full size 3G pitch which is FA registered. There is no hockey use/demand of the sand based AGP. The site is managed by SLS solutions.	Explore opportunities to resurface sand AGP as full size 3G pitch if not required in the longer term for hockey.			H	M	
56	Gaghills Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect

Whitworth Analysis Area

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ¹⁶	Timescales ¹⁷	Aim
53	Festival Park Whitworth	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green. Whitworth Festival Bowling Club has 80 members which is higher than the area average membership.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
135	The Birches Hotel Whitworth	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
140	Tonacliffe Primary School Whitworth	Football	School	One poor quality mini (7v7) pitch, available for community use but unused likely due to quality.	Retain for school use and where possible improve quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
155	Whitworth Community High School	Football	School	One adult, one youth and two mini pitches all standard quality and used to capacity. Overall good condition but with some standing water. Community use by Whitworth Valley FC	Where possible seek to improve quality issues and build future site capacity.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	M	Protect
		Rugby union		One standard quality senior pitch with natural (adequate) drainage. Available to the community, however, unused.	Retain for school use.			L	L	
156	Whitworth Valley FC	Football	Council	One good quality adult pitch with minimal spare capacity used by Whitworth Valley FC. The Club reports latent and future demand and is in discussions with Rossendale Council in order to acquire the ground on a 25 year lease.	Retain spare capacity and explore options for further pitches to be provided at the site to accommodate latent/future demand. Work with the Club to secure a longer term lease of the site.	Council FA	Local	M	S	Protect Provide

¹⁴ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

¹⁵ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

¹⁶ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

¹⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

PENDLE SUMMARY

Football – grass pitches

Summary of current and future demand for adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Barrowford & Western Parishes	-	0.5	0.5	-1	0.5	-0.5
Brierfield & Reedley	2	-	-	2	-	2
Colne & District	1	1	1	-1	-	-1
Nelson	2	0.5	-	1.5	-	1.5
West Craven	2	-	0.5	1.5	0.5	1
Pendle	7	2	2	3	0.5	2.5

Summary of current and future demand for youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Barrowford & Western Parishes	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
Brierfield & Reedley	-	-	-		1	-1
Colne & District	-	-	1	-1	-	-1
Nelson	-	-	-		-	
West Craven	-	-	-		0.5	-0.5
Pendle	0	0	1.5	-1.5	4	-5.5

Summary of current and future demand for youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Barrowford & Western Parishes	1	-	0.5	0.5	-	0.5
Brierfield & Reedley	-	-	-		0.5	-0.5
Colne & District	-	2.5	0.5	-3	-	-3
Nelson	2.5	-	-	2.5	-	2.5
West Craven	2	-	-	2	-	2
Pendle	5.5	2.5	1	2	3	-1

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Summary of current and future demand for mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Barrowford & Western Parishes	-	-	0.5	-0.5	0.5	-1
Brierfield & Reedley	2	-	-	2	-	2
Colne & District	-	0.5	0.5	-1	-	-1
Nelson	-	-	-		-	
West Craven	1	-	-	1	1	
Pendle	3	0.5	1	1.5	1	0.5

Summary of current and future demand for mini 5v5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
Barrowford & Western Parishes	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
Brierfield & Reedley	-	-	-		-	
Colne & District	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	0.5
Nelson	-	-	-		-	
West Craven	-	-	-		0.5	-0.5
Pendle	0	0	1	-1	0.5	-1.5

- Over play at all sites can be alleviated through improving pitch quality. Reconfiguring pitches on sites containing adult pitches would help accommodate youth 11v11 demand (but not meet all demand for all pitch types). A longer term solution is to transfer youth and mini matches to 3G pitch in a phased approach.

Football – 3G pitches

Summary of current 3G pitch requirements in each analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
Barrowford & Western Parishes	31	1	-	1
Brierfield & Reedley	14	1	-	1
Colne & District	30	1	-	1
Nelson	33	1	1	-
West Craven	30	1	-	1
Pendle	138	5	1	4

- Potential sites to provide a 3G pitch should be identified in each analysis area with a current shortfall.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Cricket

Summary of current and future demand for cricket pitches

Local authority	Actual spare capacity (matches)	Demand (matches)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Pendle	0.5	-	1.5	-	-1

- ◀ Demand is not being met on the current pitch supply due to unmet demand expressed by the Pendle District Cricket League. To accommodate this demand, a new pitch needs to be provided.

Rugby union

Summary of current and future demand for rugby union pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ¹⁸	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Pendle	3	9	1	6	-13

- ◀ To reduce overplay at Burnley Rugby Club and Colne and Nelson Rugby Club an improvement in maintenance is required.
- ◀ Overplay at Colne & Nelson Rugby Club can also be reduced through the installation of an adequate drainage system.
- ◀ Greater use of currently unused school sites will further help to reduce shortfalls.
- ◀ Installation of (additional) floodlighting at all club sites can help build future capacity and further reduce shortfalls.

Rugby league

- ◀ The pitch at Victory Park is currently overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions as a result of training demand. To reduce this overplay, all training demand should be removed from the match pitch and accommodated on a separate training area (ideally floodlit).
- ◀ Alternatively, use of West Craven High School for the transfer of play should be explored.

Hockey

- ◀ Based on four adult teams requiring a pitch at peak time there is a requirement for one hockey suitable AGP in Pendle, of which, there are currently two. Supply is therefore deemed sufficient to meet demand.
- ◀ Focus should be placed on ensuring the quality at Marsden Heights School (the only AGP currently used for hockey) is sustained.

¹⁸ In match equivalent sessions

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Focus should be placed on improving courts at Marsden Park, which are assessed as poor quality.
- ◀ Improving changing facilities at Craven Tennis Club is also required.
- ◀ No tennis courts within schools are available for community use.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity. However, further investigation will be required to determine any loss.
- ◀ Support should be especially provided to Thomas Street Bowling Club and Colne Legion Bowling Club as they operate above the average membership in Pendle.
- ◀ Although all the greens are assessed as good or standard quality, there may be some site by site improvements needed.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

PENDLE

Barrowford & Western Parishes

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ¹⁹	Cost ²⁰	Aim
15	Barrowford CC	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with seven grass wickets. No spare capacity exists during peak time and only one match equivalent exists overall. The Club expresses a need for clubhouse renovation.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Support the Club in improving its clubhouse.	LCCB	Local	L-M	M	Protect
16	Barrowford Park	Bowls	Council	A good quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
22	Bullholme Playing Fields	Football	Council	Two good quality adult pitches and three standard quality mini pitches, all of which are played to capacity during peak time. Adult pitch use includes use by four youth 11v11 teams.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate youth 11v11 users.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A standard quality square with 10 grass wickets. Spare capacity of 38 match equivalent sessions exists, however, none exists during peak time.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues. Retain spare capacity until quality is improved.	Council LCCB		L	L	
57	Goldshawbooth Playing Fields	Football	Goldshawbooth Parish Council	A poor quality adult pitch unused by the community.	Improve pitch quality to attract community demand.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect
99	Pendle Forest	Football	Club	A standard quality adult pitch overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions.	Consider transfer of play to sites with actual spare capacity or improve pitch quality to alleviate overplay.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance
100	Pendle Forest CC	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with eight grass wickets. Spare capacity of 28 match equivalent sessions exists, however, none exists during peak time.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues. Retain spare capacity until quality is improved.	LCCB	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance

¹⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Brierfield & Reedley

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²¹	Cost ²²	Aim
21	Brierfield Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	A good quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
23	Burnley Belvedere CC	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with 10 grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. Spare capacity of 16 match equivalent sessions exists overall and 0.5 of a pitch is available at peak time.	Seek use of site to accommodate identified future demand and ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain usage.	LCCB	Local	L	M	Protect
24	Burnley Belvedere FC	Football	Club	Two good quality adult pitches with two match equivalent sessions of spare capacity during peak time.	Sustain quality and retain some spare capacity in order to protect pitches.	FA	Local	L	L	Protect
27	Burnley Rugby Club	Rugby union	Club	One good quality (M1/D3) and one standard quality (M1/D2) senior pitch. Good quality pitch is floodlit and accommodates all training demand. Both pitches are overplayed by three match equivalent sessions. The Club express a need for increased changing provision.	Work to address overplay via improvements to pitch quality (maintenance schedules). Explore funding options to improve changing facilities to provide more changing rooms.	RFU	Local	M	S	Protect Enhance
68	Heyhead Park	Tennis	Council	Two good quality courts.	Ensure appropriate quality for informal levels of use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
73	John Bradley Playing Fields	Football	Council	A good quality adult pitch played to capacity during peak time. Two good quality 7v7 pitches with two match equivalents of actual spare capacity. One poor quality 5v5 pitch played to capacity.	Sustain good quality pitches and ensure appropriate maintenance levels given current usage. Improve poor quality 5v5 pitch in order to provide greater capacity.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	S	Protect Enhance

²¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Colne & District

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²³	Cost ²⁴	Aim
2	Alkincoats Park	Tennis	Council	Two good quality and two poor quality courts.	Ensure appropriate quality for informal levels of use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
32	Colne & Nelson RUFC	Rugby union	Club	Leased by the Club until 2043. One standard quality (M1/D1) and two poor quality (M1/D0) senior pitches all of which are overplayed.	Work to address overplay at Colne & Nelson Rugby Club via improvements to pitch quality (both maintenance schedules and drainage works). Also consider installing floodlights on match pitches in order to help address capacity issues.	RFU	Local	M	S	Protect Enhance
33	Colne CC	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with 18 grass wickets. Spare capacity of 42 match equivalent sessions exists, however, no capacity exists at peak time.	Retain spare capacity to protect quality.	LCCB	Local	L	L	Protect
34	Colne Cricket & Bowls Club	Bowls	Club	A standard quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
35	Colne FC XLCR Stadium	Football	Club	A good quality adult pitch with one match equivalent of actual spare capacity. Leased by Colne FC which plays at Step 5 of the football pyramid. Changing facilities are considered poor quality.	Retain spare capacity in order to protect quality. Improve changing facilities. Ensure club can progress through the football pyramid.	Club FA	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance
36	Colne Royal British Legion	Bowls	Club	A good quality green. Colne Legion Bowls Club is operating above the areas average membership.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
38	Craven Tennis Club	Tennis	Club	Two good quality courts. The Club reports that changing facilities are poor quality.	Sustain court quality and explore funding options to improve changing facilities.	Club LTA	Local	M	S	Protect Enhance
54	Foulridge CC	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with 11 grass wickets. Spare capacity of 18 match equivalent sessions exists, however, no capacity exists at peak time. The Club reports that the pitch suffers from a mole infestation.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues. Retain spare capacity until quality is improved.	Club LCCB	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
55	Foulridge Towngate Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	A good quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
69	Holt House Playing Fields	Football	Council	Four good quality adult pitches played to capacity during peak time and a standard quality 7v7 pitch with one match equivalent of actual spare capacity. Use of adult pitches includes use by three youth 11v11 teams.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Reconfigure pitches to better accommodate youth 11v11 users.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	S	Protect
87	Nelson & Colne College (Barrowford Road)	Football	College	A poor quality 9v9 pitch and a poor quality 7v7 pitch overplayed by 2.5 and 0.5 match equivalents respectively.	Improve pitch quality in order to reduce overplay. Consider transfer of 9v9 teams to sites with actual spare capacity.	Council	Local	L-M	S	Enhance
96	Park High School	Football	School	A poor quality 9v9 pitch unused by the community despite being available. Played to capacity through school use.	Retain for school use and improve quality as appropriate.	Council	Local	L	S	Enhance Provide

²³ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁴ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁵	Cost ²⁶	Aim
103	Primet High School	Football	School	A poor quality adult pitch unused by the community despite being available. Played to capacity through school use. A standard quality 9v9 pitch is unavailable for community use.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	Council FA	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
143	Trawden Forest Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	A good quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
144	Trawden Rec	Football	Council	One adult, one 9v9, one 7v7 and one 5v5 pitch all assessed as poor quality. The adult pitch is overplayed by one match equivalent session, whilst the 9v9 and 7v7 pitches are played to capacity during peak time. Spare capacity of 0.5 match equivalent sessions on the 5v5 pitch is discounted due to quality issues.	Improve pitch quality in order to alleviate overplay on the adult pitch and provide actual spare capacity on the 5v5 pitch - possible site for FA Pitch Improvement Programme.	Council FA	Key Centre	L-M	S	Protect Enhance
170	Sacred Heart RC Primary School	Football	School	A good quality 7v7 pitch available to the community, however, unused.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Provide

²⁵ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁶ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Nelson

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁷	Cost ²⁸	Aim
48	Edge End Playing Fields	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult pitches and a standard quality 9v9 pitch. The adult pitches are overplayed by 0.5 match equivalent sessions, whilst the 9v9 pitch has one match equivalent of actual spare capacity. Use of adult pitches includes use by two youth 11v11 teams.	Consider transfer of adult play to sites with spare capacity or improve pitch quality in order to alleviate overplay. Reconfigure pitches in order to better accommodate youth 11v11 users.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	S	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A good quality square with six grass wickets. Spare capacity of 18 match equivalent sessions exists, however, no capacity exists at peak time.	Retain some spare capacity to protect quality.	Club ECB		L	L	
81	Marsden Heights School	Football	School	One adult and one youth 9v9 pitch both of standard quality. Available to the community, however, unused.	Explore options to establish community use to help meet identified shortfalls in the Assessment.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	S	Protect Provide
		Cricket		A good quality standalone non-turf wicket pitch unused by the community despite being available.	No current local demand. Retain for school use and any future community demand.	LCCB		L	L	
		Sand AGP		A full size floodlit AGP used by Pendle Forest Hockey Club.	Ensure quality is sustained and protect as a hockey suitable surface. Encourage providers to put a sinking fund in place for eventual refurbishment.	Council EH		L	L	
82	Marsden Park	Tennis	Council	Two poor quality and three standard quality courts.	Improve court quality.	Council	Local	S-M	L	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		Two good quality greens.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.			L	L	
86	Nelson & Colne College	3G AGP	College	A full size floodlit 3G pitch which is available to the community and FA registered for competitive matches.	Explore options to maximise use of the site for competitive matches given grass pitch shortfalls. Encourage providers to put a sinking fund in place for eventual refurbishment.	FA	Key Centre	L	L	Protect
		Sand AGP		A smaller sized floodlit AGP measuring 50x30 yards.	Retain for college use.			L	L	
88	Nelson CC	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with 15 grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. Spare capacity of 25 match equivalent sessions exists, however, no capacity exists at peak time.	Retain spare capacity to protect quality.	Club ECB	Local	L	L	Protect

²⁷ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

²⁸ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ²⁹	Cost ³⁰	Aim
101	Pendle Vale College	Football	School	A standard quality adult pitch unused by the community despite being available.	Explore community use options with the School given local shortfalls.	FA	Key Centre	L	S	Protect Provide
		Cricket		A good quality standalone non-turf wicket pitch unused by the community despite being available.	No current local demand. Retain for school use and any future community demand.	LCCB		L	L	
		Rugby union		A standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitch available to the community, however, unused for match play.	Retain for school use.	School		L	S	
		AGP		A full size floodlit sand AGP used solely by football teams for training purposes.	Consider possible 3G surface given local 3G shortfalls and lack of hockey demand in the area.	FA		M	M	
108	Ringstone Crescent	Football	Council	Two 9v9, two 7v7 and one 5v5 pitch assessed as poor quality. The 5v5 pitch is played to capacity during peak time, whilst spare capacity on the 9v9 and 7v7 pitches are discounted due to quality issues.	If possible improve pitch quality in order to sustain usage on 5v5 pitch and to provide actual spare capacity on 9v9 and 7v7 pitches. Also consider the value of the site for football and consider transferring play to other sites including 3G pitch at Fisher More when built.	Council FA	Local	L-M	S	Protect Enhance
133	Swinden Playing Fields	Football	Council	One standard quality adult pitch. Use of adult pitches includes use by three youth 11v11 teams.	Retain any spare capacity on adult pitch in order to protect and improve quality.	Council FA	Key Centre	L	S	Protect Enhance
		Rugby Union		One standard quality senior pitch created to accommodate Pendle RUFC as current home ground (Hodge House) does not meet league requirements (following promotion).	Sustain pitch quality and work with the Club to create a long term development plan for the sustainability of the Club.	RFU Council Club		L	S	
		Cricket		A standard quality square with seven grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. Spare capacity of 23 match equivalent sessions exists, however, no capacity exists at peak time. No changing facility on site.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues. Retain spare capacity until quality is improved. Explore options for providing changing facility.	Club LCCB		L	L	
136	Thomas Street	Bowls	Club	Two good quality greens.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
148	Nelson FC	Football	Club	A good quality adult pitch used by Nelson FC at Step 5. The Site is on a long term lease from the Council.	Sustain pitch and ancillaries quality.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect
153	Westfield Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	One good quality green.	Sustain quality and address any issues as appropriate.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
169	Hodge House Playing Fields	Rugby union	Council	Four standard quality (M1/D1) senior pitches and one poor quality (M0/D1) mini pitch rented by Pendle RUFC for matches. Spare capacity exists on all pitches.	Ensure security of tenure for Pendle RUFC through a long term lease agreement. Improve pitch quality through improved maintenance to provide greater spare capacity. Consider installation of floodlighting to accommodate training demand.	Council Club RFU	Local	M	S	Enhance
185	Marsden Community Primary School	Football	School	A standard quality 7v7 pitch available to the community, however, unused.	Retain for school use.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect

²⁹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³⁰ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

West Craven

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³¹	Cost ³²	Aim
12	Barnoldswick CC	Cricket	Club	A good quality square with 14 grass wickets. Spare capacity of 10 match equivalent sessions exists, however, no spare capacity exists during peak time.	Retain spare capacity to protect quality and ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage.	Club LCCB	Local	L	L	Protect
13	Barnoldswick Town FC	Football	Club	Two good quality adult pitches with one match equivalent of actual spare capacity.	Sustain pitch quality and retain some spare capacity.	Club FA	Local	L	L	Protect
42	Earby CC	Cricket	Club	A standard quality square with 10 grass wickets and one non-turf wicket. Played to capacity during peak time and only two match equivalents of spare capacity exists overall.	Lancashire County Cricket Groundsmen Association and LCCB to work with club to review quality issues.	Club LCCB	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
43	Earby Memorial Bowling Club	Bowls	Club	A standard quality green.	Sustain green quality and explore opportunities to improve where possible.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect Enhance
44	Earby Rec	Football	Council	A standard quality adult pitch with one match equivalent of spare capacity. The pitch is over marked by a standard quality 9v9 pitch which is currently unused.	Consider value of over marked 9v9 pitch given lack of local demand in order to provide actual spare capacity on adult pitch.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Protect
109	Rolls Royce	Football	Club	Two adult, two 9v9 and one 7v7 pitch all assessed as good quality. The 9v9 and 7v7 pitches are unused by the community and actual spare capacity exists one each pitch type.	Sustain good quality and explore options to maximise use of the site.	Council FA	Hub Site	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		A disuses standalone non-turf wicket.	No current local demand for the wicket to be bought back into use.	Council		-	-	
		Sand AGP		A smaller size floodlit AGP measuring 40x20 yards.	Consider value of pitch given size and location. Explore options to maximise use.	Council		L	S	
		Tennis		One good quality court.	Sustain court quality.	Council		L	L	
117	Sough Park	Football	Council	A standard quality adult pitch played to capacity. Poor quality changing facilities.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage. Improve changing facilities.	Council FA	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Two good quality courts.	Sustain court quality.	Council LTA		L	L	
121	Springfield Rec	Football	Council	A standard quality 7v7 pitch currently unused by the community.	Explore options to maximise use of the site.	Council FA	Local	L	S	Provide

³¹ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³² (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Site hierarchy tier	Timescales ³³	Cost ³⁴	Aim
149	Victory Park	Football	Council	Two adult, one 9v9 and one 7v7 pitch all assessed as standard quality. The 9v9 is over marked the adult pitches resulting in any spare capacity being discounted. Changing rooms are considered poor quality by users.	Ensure appropriate maintenance levels to sustain current usage and over markings. Improve changing facilities.	Council FA	Key Centre	M	S	Enhance Protect Provide
		Rugby league		A standard quality pitch used by West Craven Warriors RLFC. Factoring in both match play and training demand, the pitch is overplayed by 3.5 match equivalent sessions.	Seek additional pitch space in order to alleviate overplay and better accommodate training demand or explore transfer of play to West Craven High School.	Council Club RFL		S-M	S	
152	West Craven High School	Rugby league	School	A standard quality pitch available to the community, however, unused.	Explore options with the School to maximise use of the pitch. Consider transfer of play from Victory Park.	Council RFL	Local	S	L	Protect

³³ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

³⁴ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

BURNLEY SUMMARY

Football – grass pitches

Summary of current and future demand for adult pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Burnley & Cliviger	-	1.5	1	-2.5	0.5	-3
North Burnley	2	-	-	2	-	2
Padiham & Hapton	1	-	1		0.5	-0.5
South Burnley	-	-	-		-	
West Burnley	-	-	-		-	
Burnley	3	1.5	2	-0.5	1	-1.5

Summary of current and future demand for youth 11v11 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Burnley & Cliviger	-	-	-		1	-1
North Burnley	1.5	-	0.5	1	0.5	0.5
Padiham & Hapton	-	-	1	-1	1	-2
South Burnley	-	-	-		-	
West Burnley	-	-	-		-	
Burnley	1.5	0	1.5		5³⁵	-5

Summary of current and future demand for youth 9v9 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Burnley & Cliviger	-	-	-		0.5	-0.5
North Burnley	3.5	-	-	3.5	-	3.5
Padiham & Hapton	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
South Burnley	-	-	-		-	
West Burnley	-	0.5	-	-0.5	-	-0.5
Burnley	3.5	0.5	0.5	2.5	3¹⁰	-0.5

³⁵ Includes team generation rates

¹⁰ Includes team generation rates

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Summary of current and future demand for mini 7v7 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Burnley & Cliviger	-	-	-	0	1	-1
North Burnley	2	-	-	2	1	1
Padiham & Hapton	-	-	0.5	-0.5	0.5	-1
South Burnley	-	-	-		-	
West Burnley	1	-	-	1	1	
Burnley	3	0	0.5	2.5	3.5	-1

Summary of current and future demand for mini 5V5 pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity	Demand (match equivalent sessions)				
		Overplay	Latent demand	Current total	Future demand	Total
East Burnley & Cliviger	1	-	-	1	1	
North Burnley	-	-	-		-	
Padiham & Hapton	-	-	0.5	-0.5	-	-0.5
South Burnley	-	-	-		-	
West Burnley	1	-	-	1	1	
Burnley	2	0	0.5	1.5	2	-0.5

- Improving pitch quality will address over play. In addition, remarking youth 11v11 pitches on selected sites from adult pitches to dedicated youth 11v11 pitches would help to accommodate demand. However, there may be a longer term solution in transferring youth matches to 3G pitches in a phased approach (alongside mini matches).

Football – 3G pitches

Summary of current 3G pitch requirements in each analysis area

Analysis area	Current number of teams	3G requirement	Current number of 3G pitches	Potential shortfall
East Burnley & Cliviger	45	1	-	1
North Burnley	51	1	2	-
Padiham & Hapton	30	1	-	1
South Burnley	0	-	1	-
West Burnley	33	1	-	1
Burnley	159	4	3	3

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Cricket

Summary of current and future demand for cricket pitches

Local authority	Actual spare capacity (matches)	Demand (matches)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Burnley	1.5	-	-	0.5	1

- Current and future demand is being met in the Area. All pitches have some spare capacity but not all are available in the peak period. One site, Towneley Park is currently unused. If this was discounted from the spare capacity the table would be as follows and there would be no spare capacity available:

Local authority	Actual spare capacity (matches)	Demand (matches)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Burnley	0.5	-	-	0.5	-

Rugby union

Summary of current and future demand for rugby union pitches

Analysis area	Actual spare capacity ³⁶	Demand (match equivalent sessions)			
		Overplay	Unmet demand	Future demand	Total
Burnley	3.5	-	-	-	3.5

- There is no over play identified within Burnley, however Burnley RUFC (playing in Pendle) is just over the border and has a site at capacity.
- Spare capacity in Burnley could be used to accommodate some over play from Burnley RUFC

Rugby league

- There is one rugby league pitch at Prairie Playing Fields in Burnley.

Hockey

- There are four full sized hockey pitches in Burnley (discounting Unity College which is unavailable for community use) currently servicing no hockey teams and no regular hockey use. Whilst some supply may be required in order to satisfy any potential future demand, there is a clear surplus of pitches.

³⁶ In match equivalent sessions

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Tennis

- ◀ There are enough courts that are available for community use to accommodate both the current and future demand.
- ◀ Burnley LTC is the key club servicing Rossendale.
- ◀ All park courts are free to use for the community and their quality is rated as good.

Bowls

- ◀ Current supply is deemed adequate to service demand, as the majority of bowling greens are considered to have spare capacity. However, further investigation will be required to determine any loss.
- ◀ Although the majority of greens are assessed as good quality in Burnley, there may be some site by site improvements required.

Rounders

- ◀ There are a number of rounders leagues operating in Burnley and the sport is growing.
- ◀ On sites such as Towneley Park and Prairie Sports Village, where rounders is prevalent, any actions on pitches should consider the impact to rounders usage.

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

East Burnley & Cliviger

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ³⁷	Timescales ³⁸	Aim
18	Blessed Trinity School Burnley	Football	School	One adult pitch and one 9v9 pitch currently undergoing drainage renovations, expected to be good quality.	Secure community use of pitches	School	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance
25	Burnley CC	Cricket	Club	Good quality cricket square and has no spare capacity at peak time.	Ensure quality is maintained in order to sustain play.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
85	Mount Lane Cliviger Burnley	Football	Council	One poor quality adult football pitch currently unused.	Consider the value of the site for football and whether this is the best location. Keep site as strategic reserve.	Council	Informal	L	M	Protect
104	Queens Park Burnley	Football	Council	Two standard quality adult pitches with spare capacity. Clubs report poor quality changing rooms. Pitches used solely by 11v11 youth teams.	Reconfigure pitches to youth 11v11 specifications and improve changing facility where possible	Council	Local	M	M	Protect
		Tennis		Four good quality tennis courts available for community use.	Ensure quality is sustained			L	L	Protect
		Bowls		Two good quality greens well used by the bowling club.	Ensure quality is sustained			L	L	Protect
118	Spirit of Sport Burnley	AGP	School	Part of Blessed Trinity School Full size good quality sand based AGP. At capacity for community use but all usage is football.	Consider resurfacing to 3G next time the carpet requires replacement to accommodate shortfalls.	Council FA	Local	H	L	Protect Enhance
119	Springfield Community Primary Burnley	Football	School	Two mini 5v5 pitches standard quality currently unused.	Explore possible community use of pitches	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
141	Towneley Park Burnley	Football	Council	Large site with 11 poor quality and three standard quality adult pitches all over played. Reported by many clubs to be poor quality due to drainage, maintenance and poor changing rooms. One poor quality 5v5 pitch with spare capacity.	Improve pitch quality in order to increase capacity and reduce over play to improve the football offer in the Area. Possible site for FA Pitch Improvement Programme. Explore options to improve changing facilities.	Council FA	Hub Site	M	M	Protect Enhance
		Cricket		Disused cricket site of eight one wicket squares, now poor quality.	Demand is being met in the Area. Consider wickets as strategic reserve for any future demand.					
		Bowls		Two standard quality bowling greens.	Ensure quality is sustained.					
		Rounders		Rounders pitches over marked on the football and used in summer.	Consider the impact to rounders of any actions carried out on football pitches					
142	Towneley Park Causeway	Bowls	Council	Two standard quality bowling greens. Club currently has approximately 30 members.	Consider the requirement for two greens at the site. Potential that one green can accommodate all play.	Council	Local	S	S	Protect Enhance
		Tennis		Three poor quality tennis courts.	Explore options to improve quality.					

³⁷ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

³⁸ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ³⁹	Timescales ⁴⁰	Aim
146	Unity College School Burnley	Football	School	One standard adult and two standard 9v9 pitches. Pitches not currently available due to renovations.	Explore the options for community use once the pitch works are complete.	Council RFU	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union		Standard quality senior pitch. Available for community use but currently unused.	Use site as strategic reserve.			L	M-L	
		Cricket		One non-turf cricket wicket.	No local demand. Retain for school use.			L	M-L	
		AGP		One full size sand AGP unavailable for community use	No local demand for hockey usage, consider role the pitch can play for football and explore options for providing community use.			L	S	
158	Worsthorne County Primary Burnley	Football	School	Poor quality 9v9 pitch not currently used by the community.	Retain for school use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
159	Worsthorne Rec Lennox St Burnley	Football	School	Poor quality mini 5v5 pitch not currently used by the community.	Retain for school use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect

North Burnley

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost	Timescales	Aim
8	Bank Hall Burnley	Football	Council	One good quality adult football pitch well used with some spare capacity.	Ensure good quality maintenance sustains pitch quality.	Council	Local	M	L	Protect
9	Barden Gardens Burnley	Tennis	Council	Two good quality tennis courts	Ensure good quality maintenance sustains court quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
		Bowls		Two good quality bowling greens.	Consider the need for two greens on site and explore options for moving play on to one green to reduce maintenance.					
10	Barden Lane Athletics Track	Football	Council	One good quality adult pitch used by Burnley United FC.	Ensure maintenance sustains good quality and retain any spare capacity to support this.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
19	Briercliffe BC Burnley	Bowls	Private	One good quality bowling green accommodating approximately 35 members.	Ensure good quality maintenance sustains green quality.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
20	Briercliffe Primary Burnley	Football	School	Standard quality mini 7v7 pitch not currently used by the community.	Consider site as strategic reserve.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
26	Burnley College	Football	College	One good quality adult and on mini 7v7 pitch currently unused.	Explore options for community use.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
		AGP		One full size 3G pitch and one 60x40 sand based AGP	Maximise community use of pitches					
102	Prarie Fields Burnley	Football	Council	Two good quality adult, five good quality 7v7 and four good quality 9v9 pitches, spare capacity at peak time on all pitches.	Use spare capacity to ensure that quality is maintained. Use as strategic reserve and future growth. Ensure maintenance is adequate to sustain quality.	Council	Hub	L	L	Protect Enhance
		Rugby union/Rugby league		One good quality senior rugby union/rugby league pitch used by Burnley RUFC as a secondary ground as well as Burnley & Pendle RLFC	Maintain quality to ensure pitch is fit for purpose.	Council		M	L	Protect
		AGP		One full size good quality 3G pitch used for training and competitive matches.	Maximise use of pitch and ensure sinking fund is in place to resurface.	Council		M	L	Protect

³⁹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

⁴⁰ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

ROSSENDALE, PENDLE & BURNLEY STRATEGY & ACTION PLAN

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost	Timescales	Aim
										Enhance
106	Queensgate BC Disraeli Street Burnley	Bowls	Club	One good quality bowling green accommodating 41 members.	Ensure good quality maintenance sustains green quality.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
116	Sir John Thursby School Burnley	Football	School	Two adult and one 7v7 pitch, both good quality. No current community use. School reports pitch hire is not a sustainable venture.	Explore options for community use.	Council	Local	L	S	Protect
		AGP		Full size, standard quality, sand based AGP. No regular hockey use recorded, but some football usage. No sinking fund in place.	Maximise use of the pitches, particularly for community use, to ensure that a sinking fund is put in place			L	S	Protect
130	Stonyholme Rec Clifton Street Burnley	Football	Council	One poor quality adult football pitch currently unused.	Consider the value of the site for football and whether this is the best location. Retain as informal use.	Council	Informal	L	S-M	Protect
137	Thomas Whittam Burnley	Football	School	Two adult pitches and two 7v7 pitches both standard quality. Adult pitches at capacity but minimal (0.5) spare capacity at peak time on mini pitches. Community use from Daneshouse FC.	Ensure community use is secured for club and ensure that maintenance is adequate for pitches to cope with curriculum and community use.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
161	Queen Street Rec	Football	Club	Briercliffe Rovers JFC lease the site containing two youth 11v11, one 9v9 and one 7v7 pitch all of standard quality. Some spare capacity on youth 11v11 and 9v9.	Retain spare capacity to maintain quality and to provide additional capacity for future demand.	Club	Local	L	M	Protect
179	Barden Primary School	Football	School	Two standard youth 9v9 pitches currently unused.	Consider pitches as strategic reserve for community use. Retain for school use.	School	Local	L	L	Protect

Padiham & Hapton

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost	Timescales	Aim
52	Fenny Fold PF Padiham	Football	Council	Large site with two adult, one 9v9, one 7v7 and 5v5 pitch. Main club user is Padiham Saints FC. No spare capacity at peak time. Club reports poor quality changing facilities.	Explore options to improve changing facilities. Ensure maintenance is adequate to cope with levels of play.	Council	Key Centre	L	S	Protect Enhance
62	Hapton Rec Burnley	Football	Council	One poor quality adult pitch currently unused.	Consider the value of the site for football and whether this is the best location. Keep site as strategic reserve.	Council	Informal	L	S-M	Protect
77	Lowerhouse CC Burnley	Cricket	Club	Club has a lease on the site with a good quality 18 wicket square. There is an additional non-turf wicket at the site also. There is no spare capacity at peak time.	Ensure maintenance is maintained to sustain good pitch quality.	Club LCCB	Local	L	M-L	Protect
83	Memorial Park Padiham Burnley	Tennis	Council	Three standard quality tennis courts.	Ensure quality is maintained or improved.	Council	Local	L	S-M	Protect Enhance
		Bowls		Two good quality bowling greens.	Consider the need for two greens on site and explore options for moving play on to one green to reduce maintenance if appropriate					
92	Padiham CC Burnley	Cricket	Club	Site is assessed as good standard with 14 wickets. Club reports the need to improve the changing facilities. Some spare capacity exists at peak time.	Explore options for upgrading changing facility. Lancashire County Cricket Groundsman Association and LCCB to work with Club to review quality issues.	Club LCCB	Local	L	M	Protect Enhance
93	Padiham FC, The Arbories	Football	Club	One adult pitch. The pitch is in good condition but suffers from an aging drainage system and	Negotiate extension of the lease with the Club and explore options for improving	Club Council	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost	Timescales	Aim
				a weed problem. The lease from Burnley is due to expire in 2028. The Club plays within the football pyramid structure.	the drainage system.					
95	Padiham St Leonards School Burnley	Football	School	Two mini pitches are out of use due to rebuilding work at the school, they are in very poor condition but there are plans for the pitches to be reinstated	Explore options for community use to reduce shortfalls	Council	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance
115	Shuttleworth College	Football	College	Three good quality pitches, two 11v11 and one 9v9. Pitches not currently used by community. The School is PFI and reports a complex relationship with Cofley.	Explore options with the provider and the school for providing community use.	Council	Local	L	M	Protect
		Cricket		One artificial wicket not currently used.	Use pitch as strategic reserve.					
		AGP		The APG is 8 years old and is starting to show visible signs of wear and tear. Some hockey use but mostly football. Pitch available strictly Monday to Friday 6-9pm only. Sinking fund is reported to be in place.	Ensure sinking fund is in place and consider the correct surface when replacement is required.					
168	Gawthorpe Hall	Football	Burnley FC	Three adult, one 9v9 and one 7v7 pitch. Exclusive use by Burnley FC.	Retain for club use.	Club	Local	L	L	Protect
		AGP		Full size 3G unavailable to the community.	Explore opportunities for community use.			L	S	
173	St John the Baptist RC Primary	Football	School	One 7v7 and one 9v9 considered good quality. No community use.	Consider options for community use and use site as strategic reserve, particularly for future demand.	Council	Local	L	M	Protect
175	Padiham Green CE Primary School	Football	School	One 9v9 considered good quality. No community use.	Consider options for community use and use site as strategic reserve, particularly for future demand.	Council	Local	L	M	Protect
176	Padiham Primary School	AGP	School	50x30 3G pitch. No floodlights and no community use.	Consider potential for installing floodlights and making available for training and/or matches	Council	Local	L-M	M	Protect Enhance

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South Burnley

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ⁴¹	Timescales ⁴²	Aim
30	Cherryfold Primary School Burnley	Football	School	One poor quality youth 9v9 pitch. No community use.	Improve quality for school use. Consider as strategic reserve for future demand.	Council	Local	L	M	Protect Enhance
31	Christ the King RC Primary School	Football	School	One standard mini 5v5 pitch. No community use.	Consider as strategic reserve for future demand.	Council	Local	L	M	Protect
59	Greenhill BC Manchester Rd - Montague St	Bowls	Council	One poor quality green. The main issue is the presence of fusarium (fungi) which requires urgent attention. Club also reports poor quality changing rooms. Membership is 436 currently, albeit many of the members are no active bowlers.	Investigate ways to improve green quality. Consider use of Scott Park for games if spare capacity allows.	Council	Local	L-M	S	Protect Enhance
61	Hameldon College Burnley	Football	College	One standard adult and one standard mini pitch not available for community use.	Consider options for community use.	Council FA	Local	L	L	Protect
		AGP		Full size floodlit 3G pitch.	Ensure sinking fund is in place and maximise use of pitch.					
		Cricket		Standalone non-turf cricket wicket not currently used.	Consider as strategic reserve for future demand.					
113	Scott Park Burnley	Tennis	Council	Two good quality tennis courts	Ensure maintenance is in place to sustain quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
		Bowls		Two good quality bowling greens. Boards and gutters reported by the Club to be poor. Club has 36 members.	Consider the need for two greens on site given membership of 36. Look at potential to combine with Greenhill BC due to poor quality green there.		Local	L	M	

West Burnley

Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost	Timescales	Aim
28	Calder Park Foxcroft Burnley	Football	Council	One poor quality 7v7 pitch currently available but unused.	Consider the value of the site for football and whether this is the best location. Keep site as strategic reserve.	Council	Informal	L	S	Protect
40	Crow Wood Burnley	AGP	Soccer Burnley	Operated as Soccer Burnley site has 5x 5v5 3G pitches and 2x 7v7 3G pitches operating football leagues.	Ensure sinking fund is in place to maintain quality. Consider use for competitive mini football.	Soccer Burnley	Local	L	L	Protect
60	Habergham Burnley	Football	Council	One 9v9, two 7v7, four 5v5, all standard quality with the exception of two 5v5 pitches assessed as poor due to drainage and sloping. 9v9 pitch over played. Minimal spare capacity of 0.5 on 5v5 and 7v7 pitches.	Improve quality of 9v9 to accommodate over play and consider potential for improving drainage on mini pitches.	Council	Local	M	M	Protect Enhance
70	Ighten Mount Bowling Club, Padiham Road	Bowls	Club	One good quality green on site. Club has 230 members, however it is unlikely that all are active bowlers.	Ensure maintenance regimes in place to sustain green quality and accommodate usage.	Club	Local	L	M	Protect

⁴¹ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

⁴² Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

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Site ID	Site	Sport	Management	Current status	Recommended actions	Partners	Hierarchy tier	Cost ⁴³	Timescales ⁴⁴	Aim
71	Ightenhill Park	Tennis	Council	Two good quality tennis courts	Ensure maintenance is in place to sustain quality.	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
		Bowls		Two good quality bowling greens. Club has 62 members	Consider the need for two greens on site. Potential to have one green. Ensure maintenance is in place to sustain quality.		Local	L	M	
76	Lowerhouse BC Burnley	Bowls	Council	One good quality bowling green. Club has 30 members and rates the quality of the pavilion as poor.	Ensure maintenance is in place to sustain quality. Explore options for improving the pavilion	Council	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance
125	St Mary Magdelene RC Primary School Burnley	Football	School	One poor 5v5 and one poor 7v7 pitch. School reports that pitches are available for community use but currently unused.	Improve pitch quality for school use and consider as strategic reserve for future demand.	Council	Local	L	M	Protect Enhance
134	Sycamore Avenue Burnley	Football	Council	One standard 5v5 and one standard 7v7 used by Ighten Leigh FC. Some spare capacity on the 5v5 pitch.	Retain spare capacity to maintain pitch quality. Consider moving more responsibility for maintenance to the Club where feasible	Council	Local	L	L	Protect
151	Wellfield Methodist Church School Burnley	Football	School	One poor quality 5v5 and one poor 7v7 used by Sycamore United FC. No capacity at peak time.	Improve pitch quality and explore options for club to take on additional maintenance responsibility in order to improve pitches.	FA Club	Local	L	S	Protect Enhance

⁴³ (L) -Low - less than £50k; (M) -Medium - £50k-£250k; (H) -High £250k and above.

⁴⁴ Timescales: (S) -Short (1-2 years); (M) - Medium (3-5 years); (L) - Long (6+ years).

PART 7: KEEP THE STRATEGY ROBUST AND UP TO DATE

Delivery

The Playing Pitch Strategy seeks to provide guidance for maintenance/management decisions and investment made across Rossendale, Burnley and Pendle. By addressing the issues identified in the Assessment Report and using the strategic framework presented in this Strategy, the current and future sporting and recreational needs of the local authorities can be satisfied. The Strategy identifies where there is a deficiency in provision and identifies how best to resolve this in the future.

It is important that this document is used in a practical manner, is engaged with partners and encourages partnerships to be developed, to ensure that outdoor sports facilities are regarded as a vital aspect of community life and which contribute to the achievement of Council priorities.

The production of this Strategy should be regarded as the beginning of the planning process. The success of this Strategy and the benefits that are gained are dependent upon regular engagement between all partners involved and the adoption of a strategic approach.

Each member of the steering group should take the lead to ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence. The role of the steering group should not end with the completion of the PPS document

To help ensure the PPS is well used it should be regarded as the key document within the study area guiding the improvement and protection of playing pitch provision. It needs to be the document people regularly turn to for information on how the current demand is met and what actions are required to improve the situation and meet future demand. In order for this to be achieved the steering group need to have a clear understanding of how the PPS can be applied and therefore delivered. Key uses for the PPS include evidence for supporting funding bids, guidance to inform planning decisions and planning applications and decision making for capital investment.

The process of developing the PPS will hopefully have already resulted in a number of benefits that will help with its application and delivery. These may include enhanced partnership working across different agendas and organisations, pooling of resources along with strengthening relationships and understanding between different stakeholders and between members of the steering group and the sporting community. The drivers behind the PPS and the work to develop the recommendations and action plan will have also highlighted, and helped the steering group to understand, the key areas to which it can be applied and how it can be delivered.

Monitoring and updating

It is important that there is regular annual monitoring and review against the actions identified in the Strategy. This monitoring should be led by the local authority and supported by all members of, and reported back to, the steering group. Understanding and learning lessons from how the PPS has been applied should also form a key component of monitoring its delivery. This should form an on-going role of the steering group. It is possible that in the interim between annual reviews the steering group could operate as a 'virtual' group; prepared to comment on suggestions and updates electronically when relevant.

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As a guide, if no review and subsequent update has been carried out within three years of the PPS being signed off by the steering group, then Sport England and the NGBs would consider the PPS and the information on which it is based to be out of date. If the PPS is used as a 'live' document, and kept up to date, the time frame can be extended to five years.

Furthermore, the process of refreshing the PPS would be much less resource intensive if changes and updates have been made throughout the five years. If there are no updates to the document within the period the nature of the supply and in particular the demand for playing pitches is likely to have changed. Therefore, without any form of review and update within this time period it would be difficult to make the case that the supply and demand information and assessment work is sufficiently robust.

Ideally the PPS could be reviewed on an annual basis from the date it is formally signed off by the steering group. This will help to maintain the momentum and commitment that would have been built up when developing the PPS. Taking into account the time to develop the PPS this should also help to ensure that the original supply and demand information is no more than two years old without being reviewed.

An annual review should not be regarded as a particularly resource intensive task. However, it should highlight:

- ◀ How the delivery of the recommendations and action plan has progressed and any changes required to the priority afforded to each action (e.g. the priority of some may increase following the delivery of others)
- ◀ How the PPS has been applied and the lessons learnt
- ◀ Any changes to particularly important sites and/or clubs in the area (e.g. the most used or high quality sites for a particular sport) and other supply and demand information, what this may mean for the overall assessment work and the key findings and issues
- ◀ Any development of a specific sport or particular format of a sport
- ◀ Any new or emerging issues and opportunities.

Once the PPS is complete the role of the steering group should evolve so that it:

- ◀ Acts as a focal point for promoting the value and importance of the PPS and playing pitch provision in the area
- ◀ Monitors, evaluates and reviews progress with the delivery of the recommendations and action plan
- ◀ Shares lessons learnt from how the PPS has been used and how it has been applied to a variety of circumstances
- ◀ Ensures the PPS is used effectively to input into any new opportunities to secure improved provision and influence relevant programmes and initiatives
- ◀ Maintains links between all relevant parties with an interest in playing pitch provision in the area;
- ◀ Reviews the need to update the PPS along with the supply and demand information and assessment work on which it is based. Further to review the group should either:
 - ◀ Provide a short annual progress and update paper;
 - ◀ Provide a partial review focussing on particular sport, pitch type and/or sub area; or
 - ◀ Lead a full review and update of the PPS document (including the supply and demand information and assessment details).

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Alongside the regular steering group meetings it is recommended that each Local Authority holds annual sport specific meetings with the pitch sport NGBs and other relevant organisations. These meetings should look to update the key supply and demand information, if necessary amend the assessment work, track progress with implementing the recommendations and action plan and highlight any new issues and opportunities. Things to consider include formation of new teams or loss of teams, any new formats of the sports that would impact on facilities, changes in quality or creation of new facilities.

These meetings could be timed to fit with the annual affiliation process undertaken by the NGBs which would help to capture any changes in the number and nature of sports clubs in the area. Other information that is already collected on a regular basis such as pitch booking records for local authority and other sites could be fed into these meetings. The NGBs will also be able to indicate any further performance quality assessments that have been undertaken within the study area. Discussion with the league secretaries may also indicate annual league meetings which it may be useful to attend to pick up any specific issues and/or enable a review of the relevant club details to be undertaken.

The steering group should regularly review and refresh area by area plans taking account of any improvements in pitch quality (and hence increases in pitch capacity) and also any new negotiations for community use of education or other private sites in the future. Updating the action plans will make the task of updating the PPS much easier.


It is important that each Council maintains the data contained with the accompanying Playing Pitch Database. This will enable it to refresh and update area by area plans on a regular basis. The accompanying databases are intended to be refreshed on a season by season basis and it is important that there is cross-departmental working, including for example, grounds maintenance and sports, to ensure that this is achieved and that results are used to inform subsequent annual sports facility development plans. Results should be shared with partners via a consultative mechanism.

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Checklist

To help ensure the PPS is delivered and is kept robust and up to date, the steering group can refer to the new methodology Stage E Checklist: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date:

<http://www.sportengland.org/facilities-planning/planning-for-sport/planning-tools-and-guidance/playing-pitch-strategy-guidance/>

Stage E: Deliver the strategy and keep it robust and up to date	Tick 	
	Yes	Requires Attention
Step 9: Apply & deliver the strategy		
1. Are steering group members clear on how the PPS can be applied across a range of relevant areas?		
2. Is each member of the steering group committed to taking the lead to help ensure the PPS is used and applied appropriately within their area of work and influence?		
3. Has a process been put in place to ensure regular monitoring of how the recommendations and action plan are being delivered and the PPS is being applied?		
Step 10: Keep the strategy robust & up to date		
1. Has a process been put in place to ensure the PPS is kept robust and up to date?		
2. Does the process involve an annual update of the PPS?		
3. Is the steering group to be maintained and is it clear of its on-going role?		
4. Is regular liaison with the NGBs and other parties planned?		
5. Has all the supply and demand information been collated and presented in a format (i.e. single document that can be filtered accordingly) that will help people to review it and highlight any changes?		
6. Have any changes made to the Active Places Power data been fed back to Sport England?		

APPENDIX ONE: STRATEGIC CONTEXT

The recommendations within this Strategy have been developed via the combination of information gathered during consultation, site visits and analysis. They reflect key areas to be addressed over its lifetime. However, implementation must be considered in the context of financial implications and the need for some proposals to also meet planning considerations.

National context

The provision of high quality and accessible community outdoor sports facilities at a local level is a key requirement for achieving the targets set out by the Government and Sport England. It is vital that this strategy is cognisant of and works towards these targets in addition to local priorities and plans.

DCMS (Department for Culture Media & Sport) is currently (2015) consulting on a new strategy for sport. It will seek to address the following challenges:

- ◀ How to address the recent decline in the number of people that regularly take part in sport and deliver a long-term sustainable increase in participation;
- ◀ What type(s) of participation should be encouraged and how should they be measured;
- ◀ How to ensure that funding goes to those who can best deliver results;
- ◀ How to specifically target under-represented groups;
- ◀ Understanding the role of the private sector, and how public sector bodies, National Governing Bodies (NGBs) and other sports bodies should work with the private sector to help deliver an increase in participation;
- ◀ How to best support participation in new and/or non-traditional sports and activities;
- ◀ How to maximise the potential of new technology to increase participation;
- ◀ How to use the power of sport to achieve broader positive social outcomes and whether some funding should specifically be spent for that purpose.

Sport England: A Sporting Habit for Life (2012-2017)

In 2017, five years after the Olympic Games, Sport England aspires to transforming sport in England so that it is a habit for life for more people and a regular choice for the majority. Launched in January 2012 the strategy sets out how Sport England will invest over one billion pounds of National Lottery and Exchequer funding during the five year plan period. The investment will be used to create a lasting community sport legacy by growing sports participation at the grassroots level following the 2012 London Olympics. The strategy will:

- ◀ See more people starting and keeping a sporting habit for life
- ◀ Create more opportunities for young people
- ◀ Nurture and develop talent
- ◀ Provide the right facilities in the right places
- ◀ Support local authorities and unlock local funding
- ◀ Ensure real opportunities for communities

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The vision is for England to be a world leading sporting nation where many more people choose to play sport. There are five strategic themes including:

- ✦ Maximise value from current NGB investment
- ✦ Places, People, Play
- ✦ Strategic direction and market intelligence
- ✦ Set criteria and support system for NGB 2013-17 investment
- ✦ Market development

The aim by 2017 is to ensure that playing sport is a lifelong habit for more people and a regular choice for the majority. A specific target is to increase the number of 14 to 25 year olds playing sport. To accomplish these aims the strategy sets out a number of outcomes:

- ✦ 4,000 secondary schools in England will be offered a community sport club on its site with a direct link to one or more NGBs, depending on the local clubs in a school's area.
- ✦ County sports partnerships will be given new resources to create effective links locally between schools and sport in the community.
- ✦ All secondary schools that wish to do so, will be supported to open up, or keep open, their sports facilities for local community use and at least a third of these will receive additional funding to make this happen.
- ✦ At least 150 further educational colleagues will benefit from a full time sports professional who will act as a College Sport Maker.
- ✦ Three quarters of university students aged 18-24 will get the chance to take up a new sport or continue playing a sport they played at school or college.
- ✦ A thousand of our most disadvantaged local communities will get a Door Step Club.
- ✦ Two thousand young people on the margins of society will be supported by the Dame Kelly Holmes Legacy Trust into sport and to gain new life skills.
- ✦ Building on the success of the Places People Play, a further £100 million will be invested in facilities for the most popular sports.
- ✦ A minimum of 30 sports will have enhanced England Talent Pathways to ensure young people and others fulfil their potential.

National Planning Policy Framework

The National Planning Policy Framework (NPPF) sets out planning policies for England. It details how these changes are expected to be applied to the planning system. It also provides a framework for local people and their councils to produce distinct local and neighbourhood plans, reflecting the needs and priorities of local communities.

The NPPF states the purpose of the planning system is to contribute to the achievement of sustainable development. It identifies that the planning system needs to focus on three themes of sustainable development: economic, social and environmental. A presumption in favour of sustainable development is a key aspect for any plan-making and decision-taking processes. In relation to plan-making the NPPF sets out that Local Plans should meet objectively assessed needs.

The 'promoting healthy communities' theme identifies that planning policies should be based on robust and up-to-date assessments of the needs for open space, sports and recreation facilities and opportunities for new provision. Specific needs and quantitative or qualitative deficiencies or surpluses in local areas should also be identified. This information should be used to inform what provision is required in an area.

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As a prerequisite the NPPF states existing open space, sports and recreation buildings and land, including playing fields, should not be built on unless:

- ◆ An assessment has been undertaken, which has clearly shown that the open space, buildings or land is surplus to requirements.
- ◆ The loss resulting from the proposed development would be replaced by equivalent or better provision in terms of quantity and quality in a suitable location.
- ◆ The development is for alternative sports and recreational provision, the needs for which clearly outweigh the loss.

In order for planning policies to be 'sound' local authorities are required to carry out a robust assessment of need for open space, sport and recreation facilities.

The FA National Game Strategy (2015 – 2019)

The Football Association's (FA) National Game Strategy provides a strategic framework that sets out key priorities, expenditure proposals and targets for the national game (i.e., football) over a four year period. The main issues facing grassroots football are identified as:

- ◆ Sustain and Increase Participation.
- ◆ Ensure access to education sites to accommodate the game.
- ◆ Help players to be the best that they can be and provide opportunities for them to progress from grassroots to elite.
- ◆ Recruit, retain and develop a network of qualified referees
- ◆ Support clubs, leagues and other competition providers to develop a safe, inclusive and positive football experience for everyone.
- ◆ Support Clubs and Leagues to become sustainable businesses, understanding and serving the needs of players and customers.
- ◆ Improve grass pitches through the pitch improvement programme to improve existing facilities and changing rooms.
- ◆ Deliver new and improved facilities including new Football Turf Pitches.
- ◆ Work with priority Local Authorities enabling 50% of mini-soccer and youth matched to be played on high quality artificial grass pitches.

England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) Champion Counties Strategic Plan 2014 – 2017

The England and Wales Cricket Board unveiled a new strategic plan in 2013 which seeks to deliver successful England teams at all levels, to produce a vibrant domestic game as well as increasing participation during the period 2014-17. It builds on the 2005 plan, Building Partnerships and the subsequent 2009 initiative, Grounds to Play.

The plan will take advantage of local partnerships developed in earlier plans and support local delivery of priorities through the County network. It targets operational excellence to make maximum use of scarce resources and facilities during a time of economic austerity.

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Among the targets set under the four pillars of Effective Governance, Vibrant Domestic Game, Enthusiating Participation and Successful England teams, which are relevant to the playing pitch strategy, are:

- ◀ An increase in participation as measured by Sport England's Active People Survey from 183,400 to 197,500
- ◀ Expand the number of clubs participating in NatWest CricketForce from 2,000 to 2,200
- ◀ Increase the number of cricket's volunteers to 80,000 by 2017
- ◀ Expand the number of participants in women's and disabilities cricket by 10% by 2017
- ◀ To increase the number of TwelfthMan members from 220,000 to 250,000 by 2017
- ◀ Complete an approved Community Engagement programme with all 18 First Class Counties and MCC
- ◀ For each £1 provided in facility grants through the 'Sport England Whole Sport Plan Grant Programme' ensure a multiplier of three with other funding partners
- ◀ Provide a fund of £8.1m of capital investment to enhance floodlights, sightscreens, replay screens, power sub-stations and broadcasting facilities at First Class County venues
- ◀ Provide an interest-free loan fund to community clubs of £10 million
- ◀ Qualify and engage 50 Level 4 coaches to support the development of professional cricketers
- ◀ Expand the number of coaches who have received teacher level 1, 2 or 3 qualifications to 50,000
- ◀ Provide a fund of £2 million for community clubs to combat the impact of climate change
- ◀ Introduce a youth T20 competition engaging 500 teams by 2017

The following actions executed during the duration of Building Partnerships provide a strong base for this plan. Actions include:

- ◀ Streamlining ECB governance
- ◀ Building participation by more than 20% per annum (as measured through ECB focus clubs and County Cricket Boards)
- ◀ Developing women's cricket
- ◀ Attracting volunteers
- ◀ Expanding cricket's spectator base
- ◀ Introducing grants and loans to clubs
- ◀ Developing disabilities cricket

This plan therefore influences 'Grounds to Play' in the areas of facilities and coaches, which is where ECB investment will be focussed. Partnership funding and support will play a key role in the delivery of actions and maintaining the strength of the pillars.

The Rugby Football Union National Facilities Strategy (2013-2017)

The RFU National Facility Strategy 2013-2017 provides a framework for development of high-quality, well-managed facilities that will help to strengthen member clubs and grow the game in communities around them. In conjunction with partners, this strategy will assist and support clubs and other organisations, so that they can continue to provide quality opportunities for all sections of the community to enjoy the game. It sets out the broad facility needs of the sport and identifies investment priorities to the game and its key partners. It identifies that with 1.5 million players there is a continuing need to invest in community club facilities in order to:

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- ◀ Create a platform for growth in club rugby participation and membership, especially with a view to exploiting the opportunities afforded by RWC 2015.
- ◀ Ensure the effectiveness and efficiency of rugby clubs, through supporting not only their playing activity but also their capacity to generate revenue through a diverse range of activities and partnerships.

In summary the priorities for investment which have met the needs of the game for the Previous period remain valid:

- ◀ Increase the provision of changing rooms and clubhouses that can sustain concurrent adult and junior male and female activity at clubs
- ◀ Improve the quality and quantity of natural turf pitches and floodlighting
- ◀ Increase the provision of artificial grass pitches that deliver wider game development

It is also a high priority for the RFU to target investment in the following:

- ◀ Upgrade and transform social, community and catering facilities, which can support the generation of additional revenues
- ◀ Facility upgrades, which result in an increase in energy-efficiency, in order to reduce the running costs of clubs
- ◀ Pitch furniture, including rugby posts and pads, pitch side spectator rails and grounds maintenance equipment

England Hockey (EH) - A Nation Where Hockey Matters (2013-2017)

EH have a clear vision, a powerful philosophy and five core objectives that all those who have a role in advancing Hockey can unite behind. With UK Sport and Sport England's investment, and growing commercial revenues, EH are ambitious about how they can take the sport forward in Olympic cycles and beyond.

"The vision is for England to be a 'Nation Where Hockey Matters'. A nation where hockey is talked about at dinner tables, playgrounds and public houses, up and down the country. A nation where the sport is on the back pages of our newspapers, where children dream of scoring a goal for England's senior hockey team, and where the performance stirs up emotion amongst the many, not the few"

England Hockey aspires to deepen the passion of those who play, deliver and follow sport by providing the best possible environments and the best possible experiences. Whilst reaching out to new audiences by making the sport more visible, available and relevant and through the many advocates of hockey.

Underpinning all this is the infrastructure which makes the sport function. EH understand the importance of volunteers, coaches, officials, clubs and facilities. The more inspirational people can be, the more progressive Hockey can be and the more befitting the facilities can be, the more EH will achieve. The core objectives are as follows:

- ◀ Grow our Participation
- ◀ Deliver International Success
- ◀ Increase our Visibility
- ◀ Enhance our Infrastructure
- ◀ Be a strong and respected Governing Body

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England Hockey has a Capital Investment Programme (CIP) that is planned to lever £5.6 million investment into hockey facilities over the next four years, underpinned by £2m million from the National Governing Body. With over 500 pitches due for refurbishment in the next 4-8 years, there will be a large focus placed on these projects through this funding stream. The current level of pitches available for hockey is believed to be sufficient for the medium term needs, however in some areas, pitches may not be in the right places in order to maximise playing opportunities

‘The right pitches in the right places’⁴⁵

In 2012, EH released its facility guidance which is intended to assist organisations wishing to build or protect hockey pitches for hockey. It identifies that many existing hockey AGPs are nearing the end of their useful life as a result of the installation boom of the 90's. Significant investment is needed to update the playing stock and protect the sport against inappropriate surfaces for hockey as a result of the rising popularity of AGPs for a number of sports. EH is seeking to invest in, and endorse clubs and hockey providers which have a sound understanding of the following:

- ✦ Single System – clubs and providers which have a good understanding of the Single System and its principles and are appropriately places to support the delivery.
- ✦ ClubsFirst accreditation – clubs with the accreditation are recognised as producing a safe effective and child friendly hockey environment
- ✦ Sustainability – hockey providers and clubs will have an approved development plan in place showing their commitment to developing hockey, retaining members and providing an insight into longer term goals. They will also need to have secured appropriate tenure.

England Hockey Strategy

EH's new Club Strategy will assist hockey clubs to retain more players and recruit new members to ultimately grow their club membership. EH will be focusing on participation growth through this strategy for the next two years. The EH Strategy is based on seven core themes. These are:

- 1 Having great leadership
- 2 Having Appropriate and Sustainable Facilities
- 3 Inspired and Effective People
- 4 Different Ways to Play
- 5 Staying Friendly, Social and Welcoming
- 6 Being Local with Strong Community Connections
- 7 Stretching and developing those who want it

British Crown Green Bowling Association

Please note there is no current facility guidance provided by British Crown Green Bowling Association responsible for crown green bowls in England.

<http://crowngreenbowls.sharepoint.com/Pages/default.aspx>

⁴⁵

<http://englandhockey.co.uk/page.asp?section=1143§ionTitle=The+Right+Pitches+in+the+Right+Places>

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Bowls England: Strategic Plan 2014-2017

Bowls England will provide strong leadership and work with its stakeholders to support the development of the sport of bowls in England for this and future generations.

The overall vision of Bowls England is to:

- ✦ Promote the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ✦ Recruit new participants to the sport of outdoor flat green bowls.
- ✦ Retain current and future participants within the sport of flat green bowls.

In order to ensure that this vision is achieved, ten key performance targets have been created, which will underpin the work of Bowls England up until 31st March 2017.

- ✦ 115,000 individual affiliated members.
- ✦ 1,500 registered coaches.
- ✦ Increase total National Championship entries by 10%.
- ✦ Increase total national competition entries by 10%.
- ✦ Medal places achieved in 50% of events at the 2016 World Championships.
- ✦ 35 county development plans in place and operational.
- ✦ County development officer appointed by each county association.
- ✦ National membership scheme implemented with 100% uptake by county associations.
- ✦ Secure administrative base for 1st April 2017.
- ✦ Commercial income to increase by 20%.

Despite a recent fall in affiliated members, and a decline in entries into National Championships over the last five years, Bowls England believes that these aims will be attained by following core values. The intention is to:

- ✦ Be progressive.
- ✦ Offer opportunities to participate at national and international level.
- ✦ Work to raise the profile of the sport in support of recruitment and retention.
- ✦ Lead the sport.
- ✦ Support clubs and county associations.

2015-2018 British Tennis Strategy

The new strategy is presented in a concise one page framework that includes key strategies relating to three participation "focus" areas, six participation "drivers" and three participation "enablers". To achieve success, the 12 strategy areas will need to work interdependently to stem the decline and unlock sustainable growth:

The three participation "focus" areas are where tennis is consumed:

1. Deliver great service to CLUBS
2. Build partnerships in the COMMUNITY, led by parks
3. Enhance the tennis offer in EDUCATION

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The six participation "drivers" are the areas that will make the biggest difference where tennis is consumed. They must all be successful on a standalone and interconnected basis and include:

1. Becoming more relevant to COACHES
 2. Refocusing on RECREATIONAL COMPETITION
 3. Providing results orientated FACILITY INVESTMENT
 4. Applying best in class MARKETING AND PROMOTION
 5. JUMP STARTING THE PEAK SUMMER SEASON
 6. Establishing a "no compromise" HIGH PERFORMANCE programme with focus.
- The final layer is comprised of three participation "enablers" that underpin our ability to be successful. These enablers are rooted in how the LTA will get better; how the entire network of 4 / 17/03/2015 partners must be harnessed to work together and the need to raise more financial resources to fund our sport's turnaround. They include:

1. Becoming a more effective and efficient LTA
2. Harnessing the full resource network
3. Generating new revenue

For further information and more detail on the framework please go to <http://www.lta.org.uk/about-the-lta/structure-vision>

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APPENDIX TWO: FUNDING PLAN

Funding opportunities

In order to deliver much of the Action Plan it is recognised that external partner funding will need to be sought. Although seeking developer contributions in applicable situations and other local funding/community schemes could go some way towards meeting deficiencies and/or improving provision, other potential/match sources of funding should be investigated. Below is a list of current funding sources that are relevant for community improvement projects involving sports facilities.

Awarding body	Description
Big Lottery Fund http://www.biglotteryfund.org.uk/	Big invests in community groups and to projects that improve health, education and the environment
Sport England : <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Improvement Fund Sportsmatch Small Grants Protecting Playing Fields Inspired Facilities Strategic Facilities Fund http://www.sportengland.org/funding.aspx http://www.sportengland.org/funding/our-different-funds/strategic-facilities/	Sport England is keen to marry funding with other organisations that provide financial support to create and strengthen the best sports projects. Applicants are encouraged to maximise the levels of other sources of funding, and projects that secure higher levels of partnership funding are more likely to be successful.
Football Foundation http://www.footballfoundation.org.uk/	This trust provides financial help for football at all levels, from national stadia and FA Premier League clubs down to grass-roots local development.
Rugby Football Foundation - The Grant Match Scheme www.rugbyfootballfoundation.org	The Grant Match Scheme provides easy-to-access grant funding for playing projects that contribute to the recruitment and retention of community rugby players. Grants are available on a 'match funding' 50:50 basis to support a proposed project. Projects eligible for funding include: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Pitch Facilities – Playing surface improvement, pitch improvement, rugby posts, floodlights. 2. Club House Facilities – Changing rooms, shower facilities, washroom/lavatory, and measures to facilitate segregation (e.g. women, juniors). 3. Equipment – Large capital equipment, pitch maintenance capital equipment (e.g. mowers).
EU Life Fund http://ec.europa.eu/environment/funding/intro_en.htm	LIFE is the EU's financial instrument supporting environmental and nature conservation projects throughout the EU.
EH Capital Investment Programme (CIP)	The CIP fund is for the provision of new pitches and re-surfacing of old AGPs. It forms part of EH's 4 year Whole Sport's Plan.
National Hockey Foundation http://www.thenationalhockeyfoundation.com/	The Foundation primarily makes grants to a wide range of organisations that meet one of our chosen areas of focus: Young people and hockey. Enabling the development of hockey at youth or community level.

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Protecting Playing Fields

SE launched a funding programme; Protecting Playing Fields (PPF) as part of its Places People Play Olympic legacy mass participation programme and is investing £10 million of National Lottery funding in community sports projects.

The programme is being delivered via five funding rounds (with up to £2 million being awarded to projects in each round). Its focus is on protecting and improving playing fields and developing community sport. It will fund capital projects that create, develop and improve playing fields for sporting and community use and offer long term protection of the site for sport. Projects are likely to involve the construction of new pitches or improvement of existing ones that need levelling or drainage works.

Sport England's 'Inspired Facilities' funding programme will be delivered via funding rounds and where clubs, community and voluntary sector groups and local authorities can apply for grants of between £25k and £150k where there is a proven local need for a facility to be modernised, extended or modified to open up new sporting opportunities.

The programmes three priorities are:

- ◆ Organisations that haven't previously received a Sport England Lottery grant of over £10k.
- ◆ Projects that are the only public sports facility in the local community.
- ◆ Projects that offer local opportunities to people who do not currently play sport.

Besides this scheme providing an important source of funding for potential voluntary and community sector sites, it may also providing opportunities for Council to access this funding particularly in relation to resurfacing the artificial sports surfaces

Strategic Facilities Fund

Facilities are fundamental in providing more people with the opportunity to play sport. The supply of the right facilities in the right areas is key to getting more people to play sport. Sport England recognises the considerable financial pressures that local authorities are currently under and the need to strategically review and rationalise leisure stock so that cost effective and financially sustainable provision is available in the long-term. Sport England has a key role to play in the sector, from influencing the local strategic planning and review of sports facility provision to investing in major capital projects of strategic importance.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will direct capital investment into a number of key local authority projects that are identified through a strategic needs assessment and that have maximum impact on growing and sustaining community sport participation. These projects will be promoted as best practice in the delivery of quality and affordable facilities, whilst demonstrating long-term operational efficiencies. The fund will support projects that bring together multiple partners, including input from the public and private sectors and national governing bodies of sport (NGBs). The fund is also designed to encourage applicants and their partners to invest further capital and revenue funding to ensure sustainability. Sport England has allocated a budget of circa £30m of Lottery funding to award through this fund (2013-17).

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Key features which applications must demonstrate are:

- ✦ A robust needs and evidence base which illustrates the need for the project and the proposed facility mix
- ✦ Strong partnerships which will last beyond the initial development of the project and underpin the long-term sustainability of the facility
- ✦ Multi-sport provision and activity that demonstrates delivery against NGB local priorities
- ✦ A robust project plan from inception to completion with achievable milestones and timescales.

Lottery applications will be invited on a solicited-only basis and grants of between £500,000 and £2,000,000 will be considered.

The Strategic Facilities Fund will prioritise projects that:

- ✦ Are large-scale capital developments identified as part of a local authority sports facility strategic needs assessment/rationalisation programme and that will drive a significant increase in community sports participation
- ✦ Demonstrate consultation/support from two or more NGBs and delivery against their local priorities
- ✦ Are multi-sport facilities providing opportunities to drive high participant numbers
- ✦ Are a mix of facility provision (indoor and/or outdoor) to encourage regular & sustained use by a large number of people
- ✦ Offer an enhancement, through modernisation, to existing provision and/or new build facilities
- ✦ Have a long-term sustainable business plan attracting public and private investment
- ✦ Show quality in design, but are fit for purpose to serve the community need
- ✦ Have effective and efficient operating models, combined with a commitment to development programmes which will increase participation and provide talent pathways.

Projects will need to demonstrate how the grant will deliver against Sport England's strategic priorities. The funding available is for the development of the capital infrastructure, which can contribute to the costs of new build, modernisation or refurbishment and purchasing of major fixed equipment as part of the facility development.

Funder's requirements

Below is a list of funding requirements that can typically be expected to be provided as part of a funding bid, some of which will fall directly out of the Playing Pitch Strategy:

- ✦ Identify need (i.e., why the Project is needed) and how the Project will address it.
- ✦ Articulate what difference the Project will make.
- ✦ Identify benefits, value for money and/or added value.
- ✦ Provide baseline information (i.e., the current situation).
- ✦ Articulate how the Project is consistent with local, regional and national policy.
- ✦ Financial need and project cost.
- ✦ Funding profile (i.e., Who's providing what? Unit and overall costs).
- ✦ Technical information and requirements (e.g., planning permission).
- ✦ Targets, outputs and/or outcomes (i.e., the situation after the Project/what the Project will achieve)
- ✦ Evidence of support from partners and stakeholders.
- ✦ Background/essential documentation (e.g., community use agreement).

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- ◀ Assessment of risk.

Indicative costs

The indicative costs of implementing key elements of the Action Plan can be found on the Sport England website:

http://www.sportengland.org/facilities_planning/design_and_cost_guidance.aspx

The costs are for the development of community sports facilities and are based on providing good quality sports facility for the 1st Quarter 2015. These rounded costs are based on schemes most recently funded through the Lottery (and therefore based on economies of scale), updated to reflect current forecast price indices provided by the Building Cost Information Service (BCIS), prepared by Technical Team Lead of Sport England.

APPENDIX THREE: GLOSSARY

Displaced demand generally relates to play by teams or other users of playing pitches from within the study area (i.e. from residents of the study area) which takes place outside of the area. This may be due to issues with the provision of pitches and ancillary facilities in the study area, just reflective of how the sports are played (e.g. at a central venue for the wider area) or due to the most convenient site for the respective users just falling outside of the local authority/study area.

Unmet demand is demand that is known to exist but unable to be accommodated on current supply of pitches. This could be in the form of a team with access to a pitch for matches but nowhere to train or vice versa. This could also be due to the poor quality and therefore limited capacity of pitches in the area and/or a lack of provision and ancillary facilities which meet a certain standard of play/league requirement. League secretaries may be aware of some unmet demand as they may have declined applications from teams wishing to enter their competitions due to a lack of pitch provision which in turn is hindering the growth of the league.

Latent demand is demand that evidence suggests may be generated from the current population should they have access to more or better provision. This could include feedback from a sports club who may feel that they could set up and run an additional team if they had access to better provision.

Future demand is an informed estimate made of the likely future demand for pitches in the study area. This is generally based on the most appropriate current and future population projections for the relevant age and gender groupings for each sport. Key trends, local objectives and targets and consultation also inform this figure.

Casual use or other use could take place on natural grass pitches or AGPs and include:

- ◀ Regular play from non-sports club sources (e.g. companies, schools, fitness classes)
- ◀ Infrequent informal/friendly matches
- ◀ Informal training sessions
- ◀ More casual forms of a particular sport organised by sports clubs or other parties
- ◀ Significant public use and informal play, particularly where pitches are located in parks/recreation grounds.

Carrying capacity is the amount of play a site can regularly accommodate (in the relevant comparable unit) for community use without adversely affecting its quality and use. This is typically outlined by the NGB

Overplay is when a pitch is used over the amount that the carrying capacity will allow, (i.e. more than the site can accommodate). Pitches have a limit of how much play they can accommodate over a certain period of time before their quality, and in turn their use, is adversely affected.

Spare capacity is the amount of additional play that a pitch could potentially accommodate in addition to current activity. There may be reasons why this potential to accommodate additional play should not automatically be regarded as actual spare capacity, for example, a site may be managed to regularly operate slightly below its carrying capacity to ensure that it can cater for a number of friendly matches and training activity. This needs to be investigated before the capacity is deemed **actual spare capacity**.

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Match equivalent sessions is an appropriate comparable unit for pitch usage. For football, rugby union and rugby league, pitches should relate to a typical week within the season and one match = one match equivalent session if it occurs every week or 0.5 match equivalent sessions if it occurs every other week (i.e. reflecting home and away fixtures). For cricket pitches it is appropriate to look at the number of match equivalent sessions over the course of a season and one match = one match equivalent session.

Artificial grass pitches (AGPs)

There are several surface types that fall into the category of artificial grass pitch (AGP). The three main groups are rubber crumb (third generation turf 3G), sand (filled or dressed) and water based. A full size pitch is considered to be 100x60 yards.

Competitive football can take place on 3G surfaces with a FA approved certificate and a growing number of 3G pitches are now used for competitive match play at mini soccer and youth level. Only competition up to (but not including) regional standard can take place on a 40mm pile. Football training can take place on sand and water based surfaces but is not the preferred option.

Hockey is played predominantly on sand based/filled AGPs. Although competitive play cannot take place on 3G pitches, 40mm pitches may be suitable, in some instances, for beginner training and are preferred to poor grass or tarmac surfaces.

AGP type and sport suitability

Surface	Category	Comments
Rubber crumb	Long Pile 3G (65mm with shock pad)	Rugby surface – must comply with World Rugby type 22, requires a minimum of 60mm. Football surface.
Rubber crumb	Long Pile 3G (55-60mm)	Preferred football surface
Rubber crumb	Short Pile 3G (40mm)	Acceptable surface for some competitive football
Sand	Sand filled	Competitive hockey and football training
Sand	Sand dressed	Preferred hockey surface and suitable for football training
Water	Water based	Preferred hockey surface and suitable for football training if irrigated.

Cricket's Last Man Stands (LMS)

LMS was founded in 2005, in London. LMS is a wide reaching amateur cricket league. The social outdoor eight-a-side T20 cricket game lasts approximately two hours and can only be played on non-turf wickets as opposed to grass wickets. All eight wickets are required to bowl a team out so when the seventh wicket falls, the 'Last Man Stands' on his own. This shorter format of the game has encouraged more people to participate in the sport and due to its increasing popularity approximately 30,000 players took part in LMS T20 cricket leagues in 2012.